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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

Case IDs: UKRAINE2-3792, UKRAINE-E013661-13363, UKRAINE-E013661-13367, UKRAINE-E013661-13389, UKRAINE-E013661-13382, UKRAINE-E013661-13434, UKRAINE-E013661-13384, UKRAINE-E013661-13385, UKRAINE-E013661-13334, UKRAINE-E013661-13370, UKRAINE-E013661-13321, UKRAINE-E013661-13417, UKRAINE-E013661-13372

OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL

SPECIAL DESIGNATION AND BLOCKING MEMORANDUM

Pursuant to Executive Order 13661 of March 16, 2014, "Blocking Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine" (the Order), 31 C.F.R. § 589.802, and section 203 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701-1706, I hereby determine, in consultation with the Department of State, that the persons listed below, and further addressed in the evidentiary memoranda listed at the top of this page and attached to this memorandum meet one or more of the criteria for designation set forth in the Order. Therefore, the persons listed below are designated pursuant to the Order and will now appear on the Office of Foreign Assets Control's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List.

Individuals:

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- AKIMOV, Andrey Igorevich, Russia; DOB 1953; POB Leningrad, Russia; Gender Male; Chairman of the Management Board of Gazprombank (individual) [UKRAINE-EO13661].
- DERIPASKA, Oleg Vladimirovich, Moscow, Russia; 64 Severnaya Street, Oktyabrsky, Khutor, Ust-Labinsky District, Krasnodar Territory 352332, Russia; 5, Belgrave Square, Belgravia, London SW1X 8PH, United Kingdom; DOB 02 Jan 1968; POB Dzerzhinsk, Nizhny Novgorod Region, Russia; citizen Russia; alt. citizen Cyprus; Gender Male (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661] [UKRAINE-E013662].
- 3. DYUMIN, Alexey Gennadyevich (a.k.a. DYUMIN, Alexei), Russia; DOB 28 Aug 1972; POB Kursk, Russian Federation; Gender Male (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
- 4. FRADKOV, Mikhail Efimovich (Cyrillic: ΦΡΑДΚΟΒ, Μихаил Ефимович), Russia; DOB 01 Sep 1950; POB Kurumoch, Kuibyshev Region, Russia; Gender Male; Director of the Russian Institute for Strategic Studies (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
- FURSENKO, Sergei (a.k.a. FURSENKO, Sergey; a.k.a. FURSENKO, Sergey
 Aleksandrovich); DOB 11 Mar 1954; POB Saint-Petersburg (F.K.A. Leningrad), Russian Federation; citizen Russia; Gender Male (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].

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- 6. GOVORUN, Oleg, Russia; DOB 15 Jan 1969; POB Bratsk, Irkutsk Region, Russia; Gender Male; Head of the Presidential Directorate for Social and Economic Cooperation with the Commonwealth of Independent States Member Countries, the Republic of Abkhazia, and the Republic of South Ossetia (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
- KERIMOV, Suleiman Abusaidovich (Cyrillic: КЕРИМОВ, Сулейман Абусандович)
 (а.k.а. KERIMOV, Suleyman), Moscow, Russia; Antibes, France; DOB 12 Mar 1966;
 POB Derbent, Republic of Dagestan, Russia; citizen Russia; Gender Male (individual)
 [UKRAINE-E013661].
- KOLOKOLTSEV, Vladimir Alexandrovich, Russia; DOB 11 May 1961; POB Nizhny Lomov, Penza Region, Russia; Gender Male; Minister of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, General of the Police of the Russian Federation (individual) [UKRAINE-EO13661].
- KOSACHEV, Konstantin, Russia; DOB 17 Sep 1962; POB Moscow, Russia; nationality Russia; Gender Male; Chairperson of the Council of the Federation Committee on Foreign Affairs (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
- KOSTIN, Andrey Leonidovich, Moscow, Russia; DOB 21 Sep 1956; POB Moscow, Russian Federation; Gender Male (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
- 11. MILLER, Alexey Borisovich, Moscow, Russia; DOB 31 Jan 1962; POB Saint-Petersburg, Russian Federation; Gender Male (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
 - 12. REZNIK, Vladislav Matusovich, Moscow, Russia; DOB 17 May 1954; Gender Male (individual) [UKRAINE-BO13661].
 - 13. PATRUSHEV, Nikolai Platonovich, Russia; DOB 11 Jul 1951; POB Leningrad, Russian Federation; nationality Russia; Gender Male; Secretary of the Russian Federation Security Council (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
 - SHKOLOV, Evgeniy Mikhailovich, Russia; DOB 31 Aug 1955; POB Dresden, Germany; nationality Russia; Gender Male; Aide to the President of the Russian Federation (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
 - SKOCH, Andrei Vladimirovich (a.k.a. SKOCH, Andrey), Russia; DOB 30 Jan 1966;
 POB Nikolsky (Moscow), Russia; Gender Male; Deputy of State Duma (individual)
 [UKRAINE-E013661].
 - TORSHIN, Alexander Porfiryevich, Moscow, Russia; DOB 27 Nov 1953; POB Mitoga village, Ust-Bolsheretsky district, Kamchatka region, Russian Federation; Gender Male (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
 - USTINOV, Vladimir Vasilyevich, Russia; DOB 25 Feb 1953; POB Nikolayevsk-on-Amur, Russian Federation; Gender Male (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].

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- 18. VALIULIN, Timur Samirovich, Russia; DOB 20 Dec 1962; POB Krasnozavodsk, Zagorsk District, Moscow Region, Russia; Gender Male; Chief of the General Administration for Combating Extremism of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].
- ZHAROV, Alexander Alexandrovich (a.k.a. ZHAROV, Aleksandr), Russia; DOB 11
 Aug 1964; POB Chelyabinsk, Russia; Gender Male; Head of the Federal Service for
 Supervision of Communications, Information Technology, and Mass Media (individual)
 [UKRAINE-E013661].
- ZOLOTOV, Viktor Vasiliyevich, Russia; DOB 27 Jan 1954; POB Ryazanskaya oblast, Russia; nationality Russia; Gender Male; Director of the Federal Service of National Guard Troops and Commander of the National Guard Troops of the Russian Federation (individual) [UKRAINE-E013661].

Entities:

- AGROHOLDING KUBAN (a.k.a. KUBAN AGRO; a.k.a. KUBAN AGROHOLDING), 77 Mira St., Ust-Labinsk, Krasnodar Territory 352330, Russia; 1 Montazhnaya St., Ust-Labinsk, Krasnodar Territory, Russia; 116 Mira St., Ust-Labinsk, Krasnodar Territory, Russia; 1 G. Konshinykh St., Krasnodar Territory, Russia; 2 Rabochaya St., Ust-Labinsk, Krasnodar Territory, Russia [UKRAINE-E013661] [UKRAINE-E013662] (Linked To: DERIPASKA, Oleg Viadimirovich; Linked To: BASIC ELEMENT LIMITED).
- BASIC ELEMENT LIMITED (a.k.a. BAZOVY ELEMENT), Esplanade 44, Saint Helier JE4 9WG, Jersey; 30 Rochdelskaya Street, Moscow 123022, Russia; Registration ID 84039 [UKRAINE-E013661] [UKRAINE-E013662] (Linked To: DERIPASKA, Oleg Vladimirovich).
- B-FINANCE LTD, Vanterpool Plaza, 2nd Floor, Wickhams Cay, Road Town, Tortola, Virgin Islands, British [UKRAINE-E013661] [UKRAINE-E013662] (Linked To: DERIPASKA, Oleg Vladimirovich).
- EN+ GROUP PLC, Esplanade 44, Saint Helier JE4 9WG, Jersey; 8 Cleveland Row, London SW1A 1DH, United Kingdom; 1 Vasilisy Kozhinoy St., Moscow 121096, Russia; Registration ID 91061 [UKRAINE-E013661] [UKRAINE-E013662] (Linked To: DERIPASKA, Oleg Vladimirovich).
- GAZ GROUP, 88 Lenin Avenue, Nizhny Novgorod 603950, Russia; 15/1 Rochdelskaya Str., Moscow 123022, Russia [UKRAINE-E013661] [UKRAINE-E013662] (Linked To: DERIPASKA, Oleg Vladimirovich; Linked To: RUSSIAN MACHINES).
- JSC EUROSIBENERGO, 165 Chkalova Street, Divnogorsk, Krasnoyarsk Krai 663091, Russia; I Vasilisy Kozhinoy Street, Moscow 121096, Russia; Registration ID 5087746073817; Tax ID No. 7706697347; Identification Number 88303955 [UKRAINE-E013661] [UKRAINE-E013662] (Linked To: DERIPASKA, Oleg Vladimirovich; Linked To: EN+ GROUP PLC).

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- RUSSIAN MACHINES (a.k.a. RUSSKIE MASHINY), Ul. Rochdelskaya 15, 8, Moscow 123022, Russia; Registration ID 1112373000596; Tax ID No. 2373000582; Identification Number 37100386 [UKRAINE-E013661] [UKRAINE-E013662] (Linked To: DERIPASKA, Oleg Vladimirovich; Linked To: BASIC ELEMENT LIMITED).
- UNITED COMPANY RUSAL PLC, 44 Esplanade, St. Helier JE4 9WG, Jersey; 1
 Vasilisy Kozhinoy Str., Moscow 121096, Russia; 11/F Central Twr., 28 Queen's Rd. C,
 Central District, Hong Kong; Registration ID 94939; Company Number F-17314 (Hong
 Kong); Business Number 51566843 (Hong Kong) [UKRAINE-E013661] [UKRAINE-E013662] (Linked To: EN+ GROUP PLC).

Accordingly, except to the extent otherwise provided by law or unless licensed or otherwise authorized by the Office of Foreign Assets Control, (1) all real, personal, and any other property and interests in property of the persons listed above that are in the United States, that hereafter come within the United States, or that are or hereafter come within the possession or control of any U.S. person are blocked and may not be transferred, paid, exported, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt in, and (2) any transaction or dealing by a U.S. person or within the United States in property or interests in property of the persons named above is prohibited, including the making or receiving of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services by, to, for the benefit of, or from these persons.

Additionally, except to the extent otherwise provided by law or unless licensed or otherwise authorized by the Office of Foreign Assets Control, the following are prohibited: (1) any transaction by a U.S. person or within the United States that evades or avoids, has the purpose of evading or avoiding, causes a violation of, or attempts to violate any of the prohibitions contained in the Order; and (2) any conspiracy formed to violate any of the prohibitions in the Order.

The President determined in section 7 of the Order that, because of the ability to transfer funds or other assets instantaneously, prior notice to persons determined to be subject to the Order who might have a constitutional presence in the United States would render ineffectual the blocking and other measures authorized by the Order. Therefore, the President determined that there need be no prior notice of such a determination. In making these determinations pursuant to the Order, I also find that no prior notice should be afforded to the persons named above because to do so would provide an opportunity to evade the measures authorized in the Order and, consequently, would render those measures ineffectual.

April 6, 2018

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Andrea M. Gacki Acting Director Office of Foreign Assets Control

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

Case No. UKRAINE-EO13661-13372

EVIDENTIARY MEMORANDUM

(U) MEMORANDUM FOR:

JOHN E. SMITH

For JES 4.5.2018

DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C

(U) THROUGH:

GREGORY T. GATJANIS

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF GLOBAL TARGETING

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

TODD C. CONKLIN

DEPUTY ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF GLOBAL TARGETING

LEILA M. BAHERI (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

GLOBAL WMD/MID-EAST/EURASIA DIVISION

(U) FROM:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

CTION CHIEF

ACTING SECTION CHIEF

GLOBAL WMD/MID-EAST/EURASIA DIVISION

RUSSIA-UKRAINE/SYRIA SECTION

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

SANCTIONS INVESTIGATOR

GLOBAL WMD/MID-EAST/EURASIA DIVISION

RUSSIA-UKRAINE/SYRIA SECTION

(U) SUBJECT:

ANDREY KOSTIN, ALEXEY MILLER, ALEXANDER

TORSHIN and **VLADISLAV REZNIK**: Designations Pursuant to Executive Order 13661 of March 16, 2014, "Blocking Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine"

(U) I. INTRODUCTION

(U) On March 16, 2014, the President issued Executive Order 13661, "Blocking Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine" ("E.O. 13661" or the "Order"). [Exhibit 1]

(U) The Order blocks the property and interests in property of any person determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to meet one or more of the criteria in the Order. [Exhibit 1]

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(U) Information presented in this memorandum and the accompanying exhibits provides reason to believe that ANDREY KOSTIN, ALEXEY MILLER, ALEXANDER TORSHIN and VLADISLAV REZNIK are officials of the Government of the Russian Federation [Exhibit 1], and therefore should be added to the list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons.¹

(U) II. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

1.	(U)	ANDREY LEONIDOVICH KOSTIN (Individual) [Exhibit 9, page 1]
	(U)	D.O.B.: September 21, 1956 [Exhibit 10, page 1]
	(U)	P.O.B.: Moscow, Russian Federation [Exhibit 2, page 2]
	(U)	Address: Moscow, Russian Federation ² [Exhibit 2, page 1]
	(U)	Gender: Male [Exhibit 2, page 1]
2.	(U)	ALEXEY BORISOVICH MILLER (Individual) [Exhibit 17, page 1]
	(U)	D.O.B.: January 31, 1962 [Exhibit 11, page 1]
	(U)	P.O.B.: Saint-Petersburg, Russian Federation [Exhibit 11, page 1]
	(U)	Address: Moscow, Russian Federation ³ [Exhibit 11, page 1]
	(U)	Gender: Male [Exhibit 11, page 1]
3.	(U)	ALEXANDER PORFIRYEVICH TORSHIN (Individual) [Exhibit 24, page 1]
	(U)	D.O.B.: November 27, 1953 [Exhibit 18, page 1]
	(U)	P.O.B.: Mitoga village, Ust-Bolsheretsky district, Kamchatka region, Russian Federation [Exhibit 18, page 1]
	(U)	Address: Moscow, Russian Federation [Exhibit 18, page 1]
	(U)	Gender: Male [Exhibit 18, page 1]
4.	(U)	VLADISLAV MATUSOVICH REZNIK (Individual) [Exhibit 25, page 1]
	(U)	D.O.B.: May 17, 1954 [Exhibit 25, page 1]
	(U)	Address: Moscow, Russian Federation ⁵ [Exhibit 25, page 1]
	(U)	Gender: Male [Exhibit 25, page 1]

¹ (U) The names of proposed targets will appear in **BOLD CAPITAL** letters. Throughout this memorandum, an asterisk (*) following a name in All CAPS denotes an entity upon which sanctions have been previously imposed by OFAC.

² (U) Based on his current role as President and Chairman of the Management Board of BANK VTB*, whose Head Office is located in Moscow, OFAC assesses that KOSTIN resides in Moscow, Russia. [Exhibit 4, pages 3-4]
³ (U) Based on his current role as President and Chairman of the Management Committee of GAZPROM*, which is headquartered in Moscow, OFAC assesses that MILLER resides in Moscow, Russia. [Exhibit 32, pages 1, 4]
⁴ (U) Based on his current role as State-Secretary – Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, which is located in Moscow, OFAC assesses that TORSHIN resides in Moscow, Russia. [Exhibit 19, page 1]

⁵ (U) Based on his current role as a Deputy of the State Duma, which is located in Moscow, OFAC assesses that **REZNIK** resides in Moscow, Russia. [Exhibit 25, pages 1] [Exhibit 39, page 1]

(U) III. BASIS FOR DETERMINATION

- 1. (U) ANDREY KOSTIN (Individual) (KOSTIN)
 - (U) KOSTIN is an official of the Government of the Russian Federation.
- (U) According to the official website of state-owned OJSC BANK VTB* (BANK VTB*)⁶, **KOSTIN** has held the positions of President, Chairman of the Management Board, and Member of the Supervisory Council at BANK VTB* since 2002. **KOSTIN** is also Chairman of the Strategy and Corporate Governance Committee at BANK VTB*. [Exhibit 2, page 1]
- (U) According to BANK VTB*'s official website, Russian government bodies hold 92.23 percent of BANK VTB*'s share capital. The Federal Agency for State Property Management is BANK VTB*'s majority shareholder and owns 60.93 percent of ordinary shares. [Exhibit 34, page 1] According to official website of the government of the Russian Federation, the Federal Agency for State Property Management is a federal executive body managing federal property. [Exhibit 35, page 1]
- (U) According to a company profile of BANK VTB* published June 20, 2017 by (b)(7)(E) (KOSTIN was identified as being on the Executive Board of BANK VTB*, holding titles of President, Chairman of the Management Board, and Member of the Supervisory Council of BANK VTB*. [Exhibit 4, page 4]
- (U) According to a report by Russian government news agency *TASS*⁸ dated February 16, 2018, **KOSTIN** attended the Russian Investment Forum⁹ in Sochi in February 2018 in his role as President and Chairman of the Management Board of BANK VTB*. At the Forum, **KOSTIN** signed an agreement for BANK VTB* to acquire a 29.1 percent stake in Russian retailer Magnit. [Exhibit 5, page 2]
- (U) According to a *KyivPost*¹⁰ article dated February 20, 2018, **KOSTIN** announced BANK VTB* would close its offices across Ukraine and settle with all depositors in Ukraine by summer 2018; **KOSTIN** made the announcement while attending the Russian Investment Forum in Sochi for BANK VTB*. [Exhibit 6, page 3]

⁶ (U) On July 29, 2014, the Department of the Treasury imposed debt and equity sanctions on state-owned BANK VTB* pursuant to Directive 1 under E.O. 13662 for operating in the financial sector of the Russian Federation. [Exhibit 3, pages 1-2]

business providing company profiles and business intelligence. [Exhibit 4, page 6]

 $^{^{8}}$ (U) According to (b)(3) TASS is a state-owned news agency that reflects the policies and priorities of the Russian state. [Exhibit 31, page 4]

⁹ (U) According to its official website rusinvestforum.org, the Russian Investment Forum is a platform for presenting Russia's investment and economic potential, with participation from Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, other government officials, experts, and the business community. [Exhibit 8, page 1]

^{10 (}U) KyivPost is an independent Ukrainian English-language newspaper owned and published by Mohammad Zahoor. [Exhibit 7, page 1]

(U) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

(U) According to a Russian official government records portal *publication.pravo.gov.ru*, **KOSTIN** was awarded the Order "For Service to the Fatherland" of the Second Degree by Russian President Vladimir Putin for his work as the President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of BANK VTB* on July 28, 2016. [Exhibit 9, page 1]

2. (U) ALEXEY MILLER (Individual) (MILLER)

(U) MILLER is an official of the Government of the Russian Federation.

- (U) According to the official website of Russian state-owned oil and gas company OAO GAZPROM* (GAZPROM*), 11 accessed on March 12, 2018, MILLER is the Chairman of the Management Committee and the Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of GAZPROM*. [Exhibit 11, page 1] MILLER has occupied these positions at GAZPROM* since 2001 and 2002, respectively. [Exhibit 11, page 2]
- (U) According to GAZPROM*'s official website, the Russian government controls over 50-percent of GAZPROM*'s shares. The Federal Agency for State Property Management 12 is GAZPROM*'s largest shareholder with a 38.37 percent stake; two other companies controlled by the Russian government hold 11.86 percent of GAZPROM* shares, giving the Russian government a controlling stake of 50.23 percent. [Exhibit 36, page 1] OFAC assesses that because the Russian Government controls over 50 percent of GAZPROM*'s shares, GAZPROM* is owned or controlled by the Government of the Russian Federation, making the Chairman of the Management Committee of GAZPROM* an official of the Government of the Russian Federation.
- (U) According to reporting from Russian information sources, MILLER represents GAZPROM* in interactions with foreign and domestic senior government officials. According to a GAZPROM* press release (retrieved from EIN Presswire¹³ on March 12, 2018), MILLER met with Minister of Energy of Kazakhstan Kanat Bozumbayev in Saint-Petersburg on February 26, 2018 to discuss ongoing and future cooperation the gas sector. [Exhibit 13, page 1] According to an *Interfax*¹⁴ article dated March 13, 2018, MILLER briefed Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev on GAZPROM*'s natural gas deliveries on March 13, 2018. [Exhibit 15, page 1]

(U) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

¹¹ (U) On September 12, 2014, the Department of the Treasury imposed sanctions on GAZPROM* pursuant to E.O. 13662 for operating in the energy sector of the Russian Federation. [Exhibit 12, page 3]

¹² (U) According to the official website of the Government of the Russian federation, the Federal Agency for State Property Management is a federal executive body managing federal property. [Exhibit 35, page 1]

⁽U) According to its Facebook page, EIN Presswire is an online press release distributor. [Exhibit 14, page 1] (U) According to (b)(3) Interfax is a leading privately-owned news agency in Russia. [Exhibit 31, page 3]

(U) According to a TASS article dated November 15, 2017, MILLER was awarded the Order "For Service to the Fatherland" of the First Degree by Russian President Vladimir Putin for his work as head of GAZPROM*. [Exhibit 16, page 1] According to a Gazeta.ru article dated March 1, 2018, 15 MILLER was also awarded the P.A. Stolypin medal of the First Degree by Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev "for accomplishments in development of the domestic natural gas complex" as Chairman of the Management Committee of GAZPROM*. [Exhibit 17, page 1]

3. (U) ALEXANDER TORSHIN (Individual) (TORSHIN)

(U) **TORSHIN** is an official of the Government of the Russian Federation.

- (U) According to his biography on the official web site of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation (Bank of Russia), accessed on March 12, 2018, TORSHIN is identified as Bank of Russia's State Secretary - Deputy Governor. Prior to assuming his current post in January 2015, TORSHIN was a member of the Federation Council (the upper house of Russia's parliament). TORSHIN served as Deputy Chairman of the Federation Council from 2002 until 2015. [Exhibit 18, page 2]
- (U) According to a press release from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, dated January 20, 2015, TORSHIN was appointed by the Governor of the Bank of Russia as State Secretary – Deputy Governor of the Bank of Russia, effective January 21, 2015. In this role, TORSHIN is "responsible for liaison with the Federal Assembly chambers, and also federal and regional state executive bodies." [Exhibit 19, page 1]
- (U) According to a Kommersant¹⁶ article dated November 23, 2017, TORSHIN was a speaker at a state-sponsored conference "Cryptocurrency and other blockchain technology products as subjects of intellectual property," organized by the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) on December 6, 2017 in Moscow. TORSHIN participated in the event as State Secretary - Deputy Governor of the Bank of Russia alongside other senior Russian government officials. [Exhibit 20, pages 1-2] [Exhibit 37, page 1]

(U) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

(U) According to April 3, 2017 reporting on the CrimeRussia¹⁷ website (citing *El País*¹⁸), a Spanish police investigation of Alexander Romanov, the leader of Taganskaya Organized Crime

national circulation. [Exhibit 23, page 2]

⁽b)(3) Gazeta.ru is a Russian online news source owned by Rambler and Co., 15 (U) According to

which is managed by Alexander Mamut. [Exhibit 31, page 5]

(b) (3)

Kommersant is a Russian daily newspaper focused on business with a print circulation of about 90,000 copies. It is part of Kommersant Publishing House, which is owned by Alisher Usmanov. [Exhibit 31, page 2]

^{17 (}U) CrimeRussia is an online archive of news, information, and investigative reporting on Russian corrupt officials and organized crime group members with links to law enforcement and ruling establishments. CrimeRussia was launched in 2009 and is owned by Hong Kong-based Citadel Media Group Limited. [Exhibit 22, page 1] ¹⁸ (U) According to BBC's 2017 Spain Media Profile, El País is a Madrid-based daily newspaper in Spain with

Group (OCG) identified TORSHIN as a frequent contact of Romanov from August 7, 2012 to May 13, 2013. During this period, TORSHIN was reported to have had 33 phone conversations with Romanov, including from his work number at the Federation Council. This reporting identified TORSHIN as an owner of an 80 percent stake in the Mar I Pins hotel in Mallorca, Spain and suggested TORSHIN may have personally given instructions to members of the Taganskaya OCG on money laundering methods using Spanish bank accounts and real estate. [Exhibit 21, pages 3-4]

4. (U) VLADISLAV REZNIK (Individual) (REZNIK)

- (U) REZNIK is an official of the Government of the Russian Federation.
- (U) According to his biography on the official website of the State Duma, accessed on March 8, 2018, REZNIK has been a State Duma¹⁹ Deputy since September 18, 2016. REZNIK is a member of the State Duma Committee on Finances and a member of the United Russia party.²⁰ [Exhibit 25, page 1]
- (U) A RIA Novosti²¹ article dated March 7, 2018 cited REZNIK as a member of the Duma Committee on Finances who introduced water tariff legislation based on tasking received from Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev. [Exhibit 26, page 1] An earlier report by Russian government news agency TASS dated February 27, 2018 identified REZNIK as a State Duma deputy during an appearance in Spain's National Court. [Exhibit 27, page 1]
- (U) According to an article from Bloomberg dated June 29, 2015, REZNIK was named in a petition submitted to Spain's Central Court on May 29, 2015, requesting to formally charge 27 individuals suspected of ties to the Tambov Organized Crime Group (OCG) with crimes of money laundering and fraud. At the time of publication, REZNIK was identified by Bloomberg as a Russian Government official, specifically a member of the United Russia party and as Deputy Head of the State Duma's Finance Committee. The complaint says REZNIK helped the alleged leader of the criminal enterprise Gennady Petrov get his associates appointed to key posts in Russia in exchange for assets in Spain. Spanish prosecutors are seeking to confiscate a property they say REZNIK owns in Spain. [Exhibit 28, page 1]

(U) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

(U) RFE/RL²² reported on February 19, 2018, that the trial of 18 suspects allegedly connected to the Tamboy OCG had begun in Madrid, with prosecutors seeking sentences of up to five and one

^{19 (}U) According to the Encyclopædia Britannica, the State Duma is the lower house of the Federal Assembly, or Russian national parliament; it is the chief legislative chamber of the Federal Assembly. [Exhibit 40, page 1] ²⁰ (U) According to a September 12, 2017 RFE/RL article, United Russia is the ruling party in Russia and won a

supermajority in the State Duma elections in 2016. [Exhibit 39, pages 1, 3] (U) According to (b)(3) RIA Novosti is a domestically focu RIA Novosti is a domestically focused news agency controlled by stateowned International Information Agency 'Russia Today', or Rossiya Segodnya. [Exhibit 31, page 3] ²² (U) RFE/RL is a U.S. government-funded news broadcaster, reporting on news in 20 countries and in 25 languages. RFE/RL is registered as a non-profit with the IRS. [Exhibit 30, page 1-2]

half years for most of the suspects and fines of up to 100 million euros. Citing *RIA Novosti*, *RFE/RL* reported that **REZNIK**, one of the 18 named suspects, appeared in court at the trial's opening session, stating, "I came to the session because I'm not guilty of anything and I trust the Spanish justice system." [Exhibit 29, page 1]

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(U) LIST OF EXHIBITS

(U) Exhibit 1	Executive Order 13661 of March 16, 2014, "Blocking Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine," 79 Fed. Reg. 15535 (Mar. 19, 2014).
(U) Exhibit 2	VTB Bank, "Andrey Kostin," available at https://www.vtb.com/group/management/guide/kostin/, accessed March 12, 2018.
(U) Exhibit 3	U.S. Department of the Treasury Press Center, "Announcement of Additional Treasury Sanctions on Russian Financial Institutions and on a Defense Technology Entity," July 29, 2014, available at https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/jl2590.aspx, accessed March 12, 2018.
(U) Exhibit 4	(b)(7)(E) company profile, OJSC VTB Bank, (b)(7)(E) (b)(7)(E) published June 20, 2017, accessed March 20, 2018.
(U) Exhibit 5	TASS, "Russian Post can support online delivery of goods from Magnit stores in 254 cities," February 16, 2017, available at http://tass.com/economy/990457, accessed March 12, 2018.
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(U) Exhibit 7	KyivPost, "About Us," available at https://www.kyivpost.com/about-us, accessed March 14, 2018.
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Exhibit 1





FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 79

Wednesday,

No. 53

March 19, 2014

Part IV

The President

Executive Order 13661—Blocking Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine

Federal Register

Vol. 79, No. 53

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

Presidential Documents

Title 3-

Executive Order 13661 of March 16, 2014

The President

Blocking Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (IEEPA), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) (NEA), section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (8 U.S.C. 1182(f)), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code,

I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, hereby expand the scope of the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13660 of March 6, 2014, finding that the actions and policies of the Government of the Russian Federation with respect to Ukraine—including the recent deployment of Russian Federation military forces in the Crimea region of Ukraine—undermine democratic processes and institutions in Ukraine; threaten its peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; and contribute to the misappropriation of its assets, and thereby constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Accordingly, I hereby order:

Section 1. (a) All property and interests in property that are in the United States, that hereafter come within the United States, or that are or hereafter come within the possession or control of any United States person (including any foreign branch) of the following persons are blocked and may not be transferred, paid, exported, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt in:

- (i) the persons listed in the Annex to this order; and
- (ii) persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State:
 - (A) to be an official of the Government of the Russian Federation:
- (B) to operate in the arms or related materiel sector in the Russian Federation;
- (C) to be owned or controlled by, or to have acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly:
 - (1) a senior official of the Government of the Russian Federation; or (2) a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order; or
- (D) to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of:
 - (1) a senior official of the Government of the Russian Federation; or
 - (2) a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order.
- (b) The prohibitions in subsection (a) of this section apply except to the extent provided by statutes, or in regulations, orders, directives, or licenses that may be issued pursuant to this order, and notwithstanding any contract entered into or any license or permit granted prior to the effective date of this order.
- Sec. 2. I hereby find that the unrestricted immigrant and nonimmigrant entry into the United States of aliens determined to meet one or more of the criteria in section 1(a) of this order would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, and I hereby suspend entry into the United

States, as immigrants or nonimmigrants, of such persons. Such persons shall be treated as persons covered by section 1 of Proclamation 8693 of July 24, 2011 (Suspension of Entry of Aliens Subject to United Nations Security Council Travel Bans and International Emergency Economic Powers Act Sanctions).

- Sec. 3. I hereby determine that the making of donations of the type of articles specified in section 203(b)(2) of IEEPA (50 U.S.C. 1702(b)(2)) by, to, or for the benefit of any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to section 1 of this order would seriously impair my ability to deal with the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13660, and I hereby prohibit such donations as provided by section 1 of this order.
- Sec. 4. The prohibitions in section 1 of this order include but are not limited to:
- (a) the making of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services by, to, or for the benefit of any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order; and
- (b) the receipt of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services from any such person.
- Sec. 5. (a) Any transaction that evades or avoids, has the purpose of evading or avoiding, causes a violation of, or attempts to violate any of the prohibitions set forth in this order is prohibited.
- (b) Any conspiracy formed to violate any of the prohibitions set forth in this order is prohibited.
- Sec. 6. For the purposes of this order:
 - (a) the term "person" means an individual or entity;
- (b) the term "entity" means a partnership, association, trust, joint venture, corporation, group, subgroup, or other organization;
- (c) the term "United States person" means any United States citizen, permanent resident alien, entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States (including foreign branches), or any person in the United States; and
- (d) the term the "Government of the Russian Federation" means the Government of the Russian Federation, any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof, including the Central Bank of the Government of the Russian Federation, and any person owned or controlled by, or acting for or on behalf of, the Government of the Russian Federation.
- Sec. 7. For those persons whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order who might have a constitutional presence in the United States, I find that because of the ability to transfer funds or other assets instantaneously, prior notice to such persons of measures to be taken pursuant to this order would render those measures ineffectual. I therefore determine that for these measures to be effective in addressing the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13660, there need be no prior notice of a listing or determination made pursuant to section 1 of this order.
- Sec. 8. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is hereby authorized to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this order. The Secretary of the Treasury may redelegate any of these functions to other officers and agencies of the United States Government consistent with applicable law. All agencies of the United States Government are hereby directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of this order.
- Sec. 9. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is hereby authorized to determine that circumstances no longer warrant the blocking of the property and interests in property of a person

listed in the Annex to this order, and to take necessary action to give effect to that determination.

Sec. 10. This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Sec. 11. This order is effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on March 17, 2014.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 16, 2014.

Billing code 3295-F4-P

ANNEX

- 1. Yelena Mizulina [State Duma Deputy, born December 9, 1954]
- 2. Leonid Slutsky [State Duma Deputy, born January 4, 1968]
- Andrei Klishas [Chairman of the Russian Federation Council Committee on Constitutional Law, Judicial and Legal Affairs and the Development of Civil Society, born November 9, 1972]
- 4. Valentina Ivanovna Matviyenko [Federation Council Speaker, born April 7, 1949]
- Dmitry Olegovich Rogozin [Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, born December 21, 1963]
- Vladislav Yurievich Surkov [Presidential Aide to the President of the Russian Federation, born September 21, 1964]
- Sergey Glazyev [Presidential Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation, born January 1, 1961]

[FR Doc. 2014-06141 Filed 3-18-14; 8:45 am] Billing code 4811-33-C

2018-06-192: 000206

Exhibit 2





VTB Group Governance Management Board

Andrey Kostin



President and Chairman of VTB Bank Management Board, Member of the Supervisory Council, Chairman of the Strategy and Corporate Governance Committee

Ordinary shares of JSC VTB Bank - 0,00183%.

Shares owned in the charter capital of JSC VTB Bank - 0,00036%.

Family ties to other members of governing or supervisory bodies of VTB Bank - none.

Education

Awards

Since 2002

VTB Bank: President and Chairman of the Management Board, Member of the Supervisory Council.

1996

Vnesheconombank: appointed Chairman by presidential executive order; term in office extended in 1999 for another three years.

1995

National Reserve Bank: elected First Deputy Chairman.

1993 - 1995

Imperial Bank: Deputy Head of Foreign Investment Department.

1 of 2

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2018-06-192: 000207

1979 - 1992

Diplomatic service at the USSR Consulate General in Australia (1979-1982) and Embassy to the UK (1985-1990).

1956

Born in Moscow.

Family

Married, with children and a grandson.

Hobbies

Theater, arts, alpine skiing.

Photos for the press





Download high resolution photo

Exhibit 3

Skip Nav

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

SECRETARY MNUCHIN

ABOUT TREASURY

POLICY ISSUES

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Press Center

Announcement of Additional Treasury Sanctions on Russian Financial Institutions and on a Defense Technology 7/29/2014

Actions Target Three Russian State-Owned Banks, and one Russian State-Owned Defense Technology Enlity

WASHINGTON – In response to Russia's continued efforts to destabilize eastern Ukraine, the U.S. Department of the Treasury today important additional entities operating within the financial services sector of the Russian economy pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13662. Specific sanctions that prohibit U.S. persons from providing new financing to three major Russian financial institutions, limiting their access to U.S. Treasury today has also designated one Russian state-owned defense technology firm pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13661. These reactions taken to suspend U.S. export credit and development finance to Russia.

"In light of Russia's continuing support for separatists in Ukraine, we took additional steps today to further increase financial pressure on the said Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence David S. Cohen. "These actions, along with actions announced today by the significantly increase the costs to Russia for its efforts to undermine Ukraine's sovereignty. We are prepared to continue to expand these serfuses to change course."

Prohibition of Certain Types of Activities with Three Russian State-Owned Financial Institutions Pursuant to E.O. 13662

Treasury today imposed measures prohibiting U.S. persons and persons within the United States from transacting in, providing financing for in new debt of longer than 90 days maturity or new equity for Bank of Moscow, Russian Agricultural Bank, and VTB Bank OAO, their proper property. As a practical matter, this step will severely limit these banks' access to medium- and long-term U.S. dollar financing, and will improper significant costs on the Russian Government for its continued activities in Ukraine.

We have not blocked the property or interests in property of these banks, nor prohibited transactions with them beyond these specific restr scope of prohibited activities and the number of sanctioned financial institutions may be expanded under the authority of E.O. 13662 if we are

Bank of Moscow is a Russian state-owned financial institution—through its parent bank, VTB Bank OAO—with 148 sub-offices located in districts of Moscow.

Russian Agricultural Bank (A.K.A. Rosselkhozbank) is a state-owned bank, which acts as a Russian government agent offering a full reservices to clients. With a network of 78 regional branches and more than 1,500 additional offices covering Russia, it has the second-large network in the Russia.

VTB Bank OAO is a state-owned bank, and, together with its subsidiaries ("the VTB Group"), is Russia's second-largest banking group. T more than 1,600 offices in Russia, and operates more than 30 banks in 23 countries across Europe, Asia, and Africa. The VTB Group offe

https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/jl2590.aspx

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2018-06-192: 000209

3/12/2018

Announcement of Additional Treasury Sanctions on Russian Financial Institutions and on a Defense Technology Entity

including retail, corporate and investment banking, brokering and other stock-market services; insurance; asset management for pension a leasing. VTB Bank's shares are traded on the Moscow Exchange and on the London Stock Exchange.

Imposition of Sanctions on One Russian State-Owned Firm Pursuant to E.O. 13661 for Operating in the Arms or Related Materiel Sector in

Treasury today has also designated and blocked the assets of United Shipbuilding Corporation, pursuant to E.O. 13661, for operating in the materiel sector in Russia.

United Shipbuilding Corporation, which was established pursuant to a March 21, 2007 presidential order, is a Russian state-owned commanufactures, among other things, ordnance and accessories, and is engaged in shipbuilding, repair, and maintenance. United Shipbuildi and constructs ships for the Russian Navy and is the largest shipbuilding company in Russia. This addition expands upon the list of eight of firms designated on July 16.

As a result of today's action under E.O. 13661, any assets of the entity designated that are within U.S. jurisdiction must be frozen. In addit U.S. persons or within the United States involving the entity designated today under E.O. 13661 are generally prohibited.

For identifying information on the entities named in this release, please click here.

###

Exhibit 4

Bates Page 000211 Withheld in Full Pursuant to (b)(7)(E)



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COMPANY OVERVIEW

OJSC VTB Bank (VTB Group) is a provider of banking and other financial services. The group, through its subsidiaries offers a broad range of retail, corporate, private, and investment banking services with prime focus on individuals, corporate, small businesses, and institutional customers. Its portfolio of products includes saving accounts, deposits accounts, pension funds, investment products, payment cards, SME loans, and overdraft loans. In addition, the group provides life and non-life insurance solutions It also offers various services such as private banking, brokerage, investment banking, asset management, cash management, advisory, electronic banking, international settlement and bank guarantees, foreign exchange control services, custody, real estate, and structural financing services. The bank's operations are spanned worldwide in various countries across Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Europe, Asia, North America, and Africa. VTB Bank is headquartered in Moscow, Russia.

The bank reported interest income of (Ruble) RUB1,107,800 million for the fiscal year ended December 2016 (FY2016), an increase of 0.6% over FY2015. The net interest income after loan loss provision of the bank was RUB282,300 million in FY2016, compared to an operating profit of RUB130,300 million in FY2015. In FY2016, the bank recorded a net margin of 4.7%, compared to a net margin of 1% in FY2015.

The bank reported interest income of RUB267,500 million for the first quarter ended March 2017, a decrease of 2.8% over the previous quarter.

KEY FACTS

Head Office	OJSC VTB Bank 43 UI. Vorontsovskaya Moscow Moscow Moscow Moscow RUS
Phone	7 495 7846055
Fax	7 495 7851515
Web Address	www.vtb.com
Revenue / turnover (RUB Mn)	1,356,700.0
Revenue (USD Mn)	20,265.7
Financial Year End	December
Employees	90,908
Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange Ticker	VTBR





KEY EMPLOYEES

Name	Job Title	Board
Andrey L. Kostin	Chairman-Management Board, Member - Supervisory Council , President	Executive Board
Andrey S. Puchkov	Chairman-Management Board, Deputy President	Executive Board
Denis A. Bortnikov	Chairman-VTB Bank Management Board, Member - Management Board, Deputy President	Executive Board
Erkin R. Norov	Member - Management Board	Executive Board
Herbert Moos	Chairman-Management Board, Deputy President	Executive Board
Maxim Kondratenko	Member - Management Board	Executive Board
Olga Dergunova	Chairman-Management Board, Deputy President	Executive Board
Valery V. Lukyanenko	Chairman-VTB Bank Management Board, Deputy President, Member - Management Board	Executive Board
Vasily N. Titov	Chairman-Management Board, Deputy President - First	Executive Board
Vladimir Verkhoshinsky	Member-Management Board	Executive Board
Yuri A. Soloviev	Chairman-Management Board, Deputy President - First	Executive Board
Matthias Warnig	Member - Supervisory Council	Non Executive Board
Sergey Dubinin	Member - Supervisory Council	Non Executive Board
Shahmar Movsumov	Member - Supervisory Council	Non Executive Board
Vladimir Chistyukhin	Member - Supervisory Council	Non Executive Board
Yves-Thibault de Silguy	Member - Supervisory Council	Non Executive Board
Anton Siluanov	Chairman-Supervisory Council	Non Executive Board
Gennady Soldatenkov	Member of the Management Board	Senior Management



OJSC VTB Bank Key Employee Biographies



KEY EMPLOYEE BIOGRAPHIES

Andrey L. Kostin

Board: Executive Board

Job Title: Chairman-Management Board, Member - Supervisory Council, President
Since: 2002

Age: 61

Mr. Andrey L. Kostin has been the President, Chairman of the Management Board and Member of Supervisory Council of the group since 2002. Previously, he served as the Chairman of Vnesheconombank from 1999 to 2002. Before that, he was appointed as the First Deputy Chairman of National Reserve Bank in 1995. From 1993 to 1995, Mr. Kostin served as the Deputy Head of Foreign Investment Department of Imperial Bank. He was involved in diplomatic service from 1979 to 1992.

Andrey S. Puchkov

Board: Executive Board
Job Title: Chairman-Management Board, Deputy President
Since: 2008
Age: 40

Mr. Andrey S. Puchkov has been the Chairman of Management Board and Deputy President of the group since 2008. Previously, he served as Head, Vice President and Senior Vice President for Legal Department in JSC VTB Bank from 2002 to 2008. Prior to that, he was a Member of the Moscow City Bar from 1999 to 2002 and Assistant lawyer at ALM Law Bureau from 1997 to 1999.

Herbert Moos

Board: Executive Board
Job Title: Chairman-Management Board, Deputy President
Since: 2009
Age: 45

Mr. Herbert Moos has been the Deputy President and Chairman of the Management Board at VTB group since 2009. He joined the group in 2009 as a Senior Vice President. Before that, he was the Chief Executive Officer of VTB Capital from 2008 to 2009. Prior to joining the group, he was the Chief Financial Officer for Asia-Pacific and Treasurer, Asia-Pacific at Lehman Brothers based in Hong Kong and Tokyo. Previously, he was the Head of Asset and Liability Management at Bank Lehman Brothers, Tokyo from 2002 to 2004. At Lehman Brothers, London from 1995 and until 2002, he served in various functions including Debt Management, Capital and Transaction Planning, Asset and Liability Management.



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2018-06-192: 000215

Bates Page 000216 Withheld in Full Pursuant to (b)(7)(E)

Exhibit 5



Russian Post can support online delivery of goods from Magnit stores in 254 cities

Business & Economy February 16, 18:22

UTC+3

The Russian Post, VTB and Magnit signed a memorandum on strategic partnership earlier today



© Piotr Kovalev/TASS

SOCHI, February 16. /TASS/. The Russian Post can support online delivery of foods from stores of Magnit retailer in 254 Russian cities within the framework of the agreement with

TASS: Business & Economy - Russian Post can support online delivery of goods from Magnit stores in 254 cities Magnit and VTB, Chief Executive Officer of the postal authority Nikolai Podguzov told TASS in an interview at the Russian Investment Forum on Friday.

"The online food retail is booming now. This is a topic related to delivery of foods. The Russian Post has 260 courier units in 254 cities. We can support a significant growth in online sales of the Magnit chain with the help of our courier service," the top manager said.

The Russian Post, VTB and Magnit signed a memorandum on strategic partnership earlier today, providing for joint development of a new retail format concept for combined provision of offline trade, post, logistical and banking services. The Russian Post and Magnit plan to consider an option of developing a joint service for goods delivery to customers via the courier service of the Russian post.

The Russian Post is also discussing cooperation with other major retailers, Podguzov said.

"We hold negotiations with many chains; this is fairly natural," he said. "I think agreements on cooperation with other companies are quite probable later on," Podguzov added without naming such companies.

The Russian Post is currently working on the complete upgrade of its logistical infrastructure and plans to complete it in 2-3 years. "This will make possible for us to achieve a fundamentally different quality of logistical services provision. Having achieved such quality, we will be able to become a logistic partner for any online retailer," Podguzov added.

VTB-Magnit deal

VTB signed an agreement with Magnit on the acquisition of a 29.1% stake in the retailer, President and Chairman of the Management Board of VTB Bank Andrey Kostin said on Friday at the Russian Investment Forum in Sochi.

"We have signed an agreement to purchase a 29.1% stake in the retailer Magnit - thus, VTB becomes the largest shareholder of Magnit. Sergey Galitsky still has a stake of around 3% and remains a minority shareholder. The deal amounts to around 138 bln rubles (\$2.45 bln) - perhaps one of the largest deals, at least this year, in mergers and acquisitions. To complete the deal, it will be necessary to get approval from the Federal Antimonopoly Service of Russia, but we do not see any problems with approval," Kostin said at the signing.

The new management of Magnit will be appointed in the near future; the company will be headed by Chief Financial Officer of the retailer Khachatur Pombukhchan. According to Kostin, changes in the leadership will happen in the "near future."

Kostin said he does not rule out the possibility of further expansion of the retailer Magnit.

"The company is very promising, but has lost a lot in capitalization over the past year. We

http://tass.com/economy/990457

TASS: Business & Economy - Russian Post can support online delivery of goods from Magnit stores in 254 cities believe that we can return its share price to a higher level. We also look at the possibility of a merger, expansion and organic growth of the company," he said.

Kostin noted that this is a long-term investment, but in the future the asset can be sold.

According to Magnit press release, the retailer and VTB intend to maintain the dividend policy of the company after the bank becomes its largest shareholder.

Sergey Galitsky, former co-owner of Magnit and the founder of the company told TASS that after the sale of Magnit shares he intends to focus on the football club Krasnodar and the development of children's and youth football. "I will stay in the football club Krasnodar. I will focus on the club and children's and youth football," Galitsky said.

VTB does not plan to change the name of Magnit stores, however, the retail chain will be restyled, First Deputy President and Chairman of VTB Bank Management Board Yuri Soloviev told reporters. "The name of the store will not change, there will be restyling, an update. The program was launched last year, we are going to speed it up a little," he added.

According to Kostin, VTB, in particular, intends to work to increase the retailer's capitalization, which has recently halved.



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Russian state banks leaving Ukraine because of sanctions, attacks by nationalists

By Bermet Talant. Published Feb. 20. Updated Feb. 20 at 2:12 pm



Security guards patrol in front of the Kyiv office of Russian stateowned VTB bank on Feb. 20.

Photo by Volodymyr Petrov

Since Russia launched its war against Ukraine in 2014, seizing the Crimean peninsula and part of the eastern Donbas, Russian banks and other businesses have been under pressure.

They have faced regulatory restrictions and harassment by nationalist groups. Last year, the three largest Russian state-owned banks signaled their desire to leave the Ukrainian market.

On Feb. 18, activists of the Ukrainian nationalist movement of Mykola Kokhanivsky stormed the offices of Sberbank and Alfa Bank in Kyiv's downtown district of

BACK TO TOP

https://www.kyivpost.com/business/russian-state-banks-leaving-ukraine-sanctions-attacks-nationalists.html

Podil. They broke windows and covered walls with graffiti such as "Death to Russia." A few days before the incident in Kyiv, unidentified persons set fire to Sberbank branches in Lviv and Khmelnytsky.

Besides banks, the attackers stormed the building of the Russian center for culture and science (Rossotrudnichestvo) in Kyiv. Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the attacks and on Feb. 19 summoned Ukraine's charge d'affairs in Moscow Ruslan Nymchynsky to declare a protest against "continuing outrages of Ukrainian nationalist Russophobes" and blame Ukrainian authorities for inaction.

"It is another instance of aggressive nationalism of neo-Nazi dogma that is gathering momentum in Ukraine and obviously enjoys support of official authorities of the country," the foreign ministry's statement read.

Following the weekend attacks, the Kyiv office of another Russian state bank, VTB, on Taras Shevchenko Boulevard has increased security.

The attacks are already adding to the woes of Russian businesses, seen as representatives of the now-enemy nation.

In 2017, Ukraine imposed sanctions for one year against five Russian state-owned banks operating in Ukraine: Sberbank, VTB, BM Bank, Prominvestbank and VS Bank. The National Bank of Ukraine estimated their cumulative liabilities before Ukrainian clients at Hr 36 billion. They have been prohibited to carry any bank arrangements in favor of their parent banks.

Another Russian private bank, Alfa Bank, was not sanctioned.

Sberbank, the largest state-owned bank in Russia, was reported to be waiting for approval from the National Bank of Ukraine to sell its Ukrainian subsidiary. Media

named Ukrainian businessman Valery Khoroshkovskyy as a potential buyer.

"Everything is prepared on our side. The question is whether we will be given a permission to sell or not by Ukrainian authorities," Sberbank chairman Herman Gref said on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum held in Davos in the end of January, as quoted by Russian news agency RIA Novosti.

In 2017, Sberbank sold its another subsidiary VS Bank to Ukrainian banker, former PrivatBank chairman Sergiy Tigipko.

VTB, the second largest Russian state-owned bank, also announced it would close most of its offices in Ukraine until summer, RIA Novosti reported on Feb. 16 citing VTB chairman Andrey Kostin.

"By summer we will close our business in Ukraine almost completely, leaving only one or two offices in Kyiv," Kostin reportedly said on the sidelines of the Russian Investment Forum in Sochi. "We are now closing branches around the country and settle with all depositors."

Kateryna Petrova, public relations manager of VTB Ukraine, told the Kyiv Post on Feb. 20 that since the beginning of 2018, the bank has already closed 19 branches around Ukraine. At the moment, there are only nine offices left in Kyiv, Dnipro, Kharkiv, and Zaporizhzhya.

A subsidiary of VTB, BM Bank, has been put up on sale and continues to shrink its regional network. According to bank's latest statement, it closed its branches in western and eastern oblasts and Odesa.

At the same Russian Investment Forum in Sochi on Feb. 15 chairman of Vnesheconombank Sergey Gorkov said they hoped to sell a Ukrainian subsidiary,

Prominvestbank, by May this year. He added that they are also waiting the decision of the NBU.

ADVERTISEMENT

About Us

The Kyiv Post is Ukraine's English-language newspaper and proud winner of the 2014 Missouri Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism.

The newspaper's <u>first print edition</u> came out on Oct. 18, 1995 and went online in 2002. Its global audience has been growing steadily since then, peaking at more than 65 million pageviews in 2014.

The newspaper's motto is "Independence. Community. Trust" because of its commitment to the highest journalistic and ethical standards. The newspaper is also known as Ukraine's Global Voice in the English language.

The Kyiv Post is owned and published by Mohammad Zahoor, a Kyiv-based businessman who bought the newspaper from its founding owner and publisher, American Jed Sunden, in 2009.

The newspaper's journalists also started an affiliated nonprofit organization, the <u>Media</u>
<u>Development Foundation</u>, in 2013 to promote investigative journalism, student exchanges and training programs.



ABOUT THE FORUM (/EN/ABOUT/O-FORUME/) ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

ABOUT THE ROSCONGRESS FOUNDATION

THE RUSSIAN INVESTMENT FORUM -

is a traditional platform for presenting Russia's investment and economic potential.



The Forum is held with the participation of the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Dmitry Medvedev.



*This is a platform not only for discussing current issues in Russia's socioeconomic development, but also for reaching important agreements and signing mutually beneficial contracts. State officials, the business community, and leading experts work together to seek solutions to the main problems that are facing Russia today. Anyone can share their views on the current situation, and offer their solutions and specific proposals."

Dmitry Medvedev, Prime Minister of the Russian Federation

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News (/en/news/)

The Russattate (/en/sontarts/)a key annual event for presenting investment opportunities in Russia's regions and for substantive discussion of regional development issues. The Forum customarily attracts representatives from nearly all regions of the country as well as major Russian companies, thereby enabling direct dialogue between the business community and the authorities. The contemporary tourism infrastructure offered by the Olympic capital means that Forum participants enjoy the perfect environment in which to both do business and relax."



Dmitry Kozak, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation (Chair of the Organizing Committee)

THE RUSSIAN INVESTMENT FORUM 2018 IN FIGURES







Russian regions









ini 55

in total, 538 agreements signed, worth RUB 794.057 billion

(/upload/medialibrary/ec6/ec601de7f55f86424914d99a054296bf.png)

heads of Russian regions

03/26/2018 10:01 PM

This record was obtained from publication.pravo.gov.ru, an official Russian government website for electronic publication of decrees and legislation, and accessed on March 12, 2018. Its title is "Decree of the President of the Russian Federation #359 from 28 July 2016":

[Page 9]

For a big contribution to socio-economic development of the Russian Federation and many years of dedicated work, award the

ORDER "FOR SERVICES TO THE FATHERLAND" OF THE SECOND DEGREE

To KOSTIN, Andrey Leonidovich – President – Chairman of the Board of Directors of VTB Bank (public joint-stock company), city of Saint-Petersburg.

This translation was completed on March 12, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.

9

За большой вклад в социально-экономическое развитие Российской Федерации и многолетнюю добросовестную работу наградить

ОРДЕНОМ "ЗА ЗАСЛУГИ ПЕРЕД ОТЕЧЕСТВОМ" II СТЕПЕНИ

КОСТИНА Андрея Леонидовича - президента - председателя правления Банка ВТБ (публичного акционерного общества), город Санкт-Петербург.

За заслуги в правовом обеспечении деятельности Государственной Думы Федерального Собрания Российской Федерации присвонть почетное звание

"ЗАСЛУЖЕННЫЙ ЮРИСТ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ"

ДЕМЕНКОВУ Михаилу Васильевичу - начальнику Правового управления Аппарата Государственной Думы Федерального Собрания Российской Федерации.

За многолетнюю добросовестную государственную службу наградить:

ЗНАКОМ ОТЛИЧИЯ "ЗА БЕЗУПРЕЧНУЮ СЛУЖБУ" XL ЛЕТ

РАЙКОВУ Тамару Петровну - ведущего эксперта департамента Министерства образования и науки Российской Федерации СУСЛОВУ Тамару Егоровну - начальника отдела департамента Министерства образования и науки Российской Федерации.

ЗНАКОМ ОТЛИЧИЯ "ЗА БЕЗУПРЕЧНУЮ СЛУЖБУ" XXX ЛЕТ

ГОРБАЧЕВА Виктора Георгиевича - консультанта отдела управления маркетинга региона, внешнеэкономической деятельности и туризма министерства экономического развития Новосибирской области

This article was retrieved from the "Success Stories" section of Russian website Businessman.ru, an online publication focusing on success stories, ideas and processes in business and finance; the article was accessed on March 13, 2018. Its title is "Kostin Andrey Leonidovich":

Businessman.ru

Publications

[Page 1]

Success stories

Kostin Andrey Leonidovich (President-Chairman of the Management Board of VTB): biography, personal life

Andrey Leonidovich Kostin is a well-known public figure in the modern Russian banking and financial system. This is a man who has managed to achieve a lot, starting practically from scratch. His life story is rather interesting and calls for special attention from its readers. VTB's president began his career as a regular student. On his way to success, he occupied many positions and changed many jobs. In this article, we will talk about how the famous Russian businessman Andrey Kostin lives and used to live.

[Image]

Education

Andrey Leonidovich Kostin was born on 09/21/1956 in Moscow, the capital city of the USSR.

[...]

This translation was completed on March 13, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.

Businessman.ru

Публикации

Истории успеха

/ Костин Андрей Леонидович (президент-председатель правления ВТБ): биография, личная жизнь

Популярное

Как управлять людьми, которые вас беспокоят

Пустяки, на которых люди разбогатели почти без вложений

Костин Андрей Леонидович (президент-председатель правления ВТБ): биография, личная жизнь

Костин Андрей Леонидович – известная публичная личность в современной российской банковской и финансовой системе. Это человек, который сумел добиться многого, начиная практически с нуля. Его жизненная история довольно интересна и требует особого внимания и понимания читателей. Президент ВТБ начинал свою деятельность как простой студент. Интересно, что на пути к своему успеху он побывал на многих должностях и сменил не одно рабочее место. В этой статье мы расскажем о том, как жи российский бизнесмен Андрей Костин. Биографи

Выдающиеся мошенники всех времён

что делать, если нет денег

20 хитростей которые помогают экономить деньги семейная жизнь Костина исчерпывающе описаны в материалах, представленных ниже.



Без этих привычек успех невозможен

Что нужно говорить себе каждое угро?

Начать бизнес без денег реально 10 мощных книг, открывающих секреты управления деньгами

Обучение

Андрей Леонидович Костин появился на свет 21.09.1956 г. в столичном городе СССР – Москве.

В 1979 году он закончил факультет экономики МГУ им. Ломоносова. А в 1982 году с успехом защитил диссертацию, после чего получил ученую степень.

Как достичь успеха?

Первая работа

С 1979 по 1992 год Андрей проработал в структурном подразделении МИДа: был сотрудником ген. консульства СССР в Австралии, а потом работником посольства СССР в Великобритании.

Биографическая справка

В 1992 году Костин принял на себя роль одного из главных учредителей Российской инвестиционно-финансовой компании (РИФК).

В 1995 году он был избран на престижную должность заместителя председателя Национального резервного банка.

18 октября 1996 г. по указу президента РФ Костин был удостоен назначения на пост председателя "Внешэкономбанка". https://businessman.ru/new-kostin-andrej-leonidovich-prezident-predsedatel-pravleniya-vtb-biografiya-lichnaya-zhizn.html



About Gazprom / Governing bodies / Management Committee /

Alexey Miller

Chairman of the Management Committee, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors



Alexey Miller was born on January 31, 1962 in Leningrad.

Education

He graduated from Voznesensky Leningrad Finance and Economics Institute and holds a PhD in Economics.

Professional experience

Upon graduation, Alexey Miller was engineer-economist at the General planning division of Leningrad Civil Construction Research and Design Institute

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03/12/2018 10:56 PM

(LenNIIproekt under the Executive Committee of the Leningrad City Council).

1990

Junior researcher, Leningrad Finance and Economics Institute; Section Head, Economic Reform Committee, Executive Committee of the Leningrad City Council.

1991-1996

Head of the Markets Monitoring Division, Foreign Economic Relations
Directorate, External Relations Committee of St. Petersburg Mayor's Office; Head
of the Foreign Economic Relations Directorate; Deputy Chairman of the External
Relations Committee.

1996-1999

Director for Development and Investments, Sea Port of St. Petersburg.

1999-2000

Director General of Baltiyskaya Truboprovodnaya Sistema (Baltic Pipeline System).

2000

Deputy Energy Minister of the Russian Federation.

Since 2001

Chairman of the Management Committee, Gazprom.

Since 2002 - Deputy Chairman of the Gazprom Board of Directors.

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Awards and titles

Order for the Services to the Fatherland, I Class;

Order for the Services to the Fatherland, IV Class;

Medal of the Order for the Services to the Fatherland, II Class;

Order of the Hungarian Republic Cross, II Class, for the services in the energy cooperation sector;

St. Mesrop Mashtots Order (Republic of Armenia);

Order of Friendship (Republic of Armenia);

Dostyk (Friendship) Order, II Class (Republic of Kazakhstan);

Order of Honor (Republic of South Ossetia);

Order of Merit of the Italian Republic;

Sergiy Radonezhsky Order of the Russian Orthodox Church, II Class;

Patriarchal Merit Certificate.

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SECRETARY MNUCHIN

ABOUT TREASURY

DATA

Press Center

Announcement of Expanded Treasury Sanctions within the Russian Financial Services, Energy and Defense or Sectors

9/12/2014

Actions Target Largest Russian Bank, Deepens Existing Sanctions on Russian Financial Institutions, Expands Sanctions in Russia's Energ Additional Energy- and Defense-Related Russian Entities

WASHINGTON - Due to continued Russian efforts to destabilize eastern Ukraine, Treasury Secretary Jacob J. Lew today determined that within Russia's defense and related materiel sector may now be subject to targeted sanctions under Executive Order 13662. In addition, the the Treasury today extended targeted financial sanctions to Russia's largest bank, deepened existing sanctions on Russian financial institu sanctions in Russia's energy sector, and increased the number of sanctioned Russian entities in the energy and defense sectors.

- Treasury Secretary Jacob J. Lew has made a determination that persons operating within Russia's defense and related materiel sec to targeted sanctions under Executive Order 13662. Following Secretary Lew's determination, Treasury has imposed sanctions that prohit persons or within the United States involving new debt of greater than 30 days maturity issued by Rostec, a major Russian conglomerate ti defense and related materiel sector.
- Treasury has added Russia's largest bank, Sberbank of Russia, to the existing prohibitions on U.S. persons providing equity or certa financing. In addition, we have tightened the debt financing restrictions by reducing from 90 days to 30 days the maturity period for new de Russian banks subject to this restriction. These banks are Bank of Moscow, Gazprombank OAO, Russian Agricultural Bank, Sberbank, VE
- Treasury has designated and blocked the assets of five Russian state-owned defense technology firms OAO 'Dolgoprudny Reseai Enterprise, Mytishchinski Mashinostroitelny Zavod OAO, Kalinin Machine Plant JSC, Almaz-Antey GSKB, and JSC NIIP - for operating in materiel sector in Russia.
- Treasury has also imposed sanctions that prohibit the exportation of goods, services (not including financial services), or technology exploration or production for Russian deepwater, Arctic offshore, or shale projects that have the potential to produce oil, to five Russian en Gazprom, Gazprom Neft, Lukoil, Surgutneftegas, and Rosneft - involved in these types of projects. This measure complements restriction Commerce Department and is similar to new EU measures published today. U.S. persons have until September 26, 2014 to wind down ar. with these entities pursuant to a general license that Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control issued today.
- Treasury has also imposed sanctions that prohibit transactions in, provision of financing for, or other dealings in new debt of greater issued by two additional Russian energy companies - Gazprom Neft and Transneft.

"Today's actions demonstrate our determination to increase the costs on Russia as long as it continues to violate Ukraine's territorial integr said Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence David S. Cohen. "The United States, in close cooperation with the European

https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/jl2629.aspx

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3/13/2018 Announcement of Expanded Treasury Sanctions within the Russian Financial Services, Energy and Defense or Related Materiel Sectors ever-increasing sanctions that further Russia's isolation from the global financial system unless Russia abandons its current path and genu negotiated diplomatic resolution to the crisis."

Despite the severity of these actions, Treasury maintains significant scope to expand these sanctions, and impose additional sanctions, ag entities under the authorities of Executive Orders (E.O.) 13660, 13661 and 13662 should the Russian Government not take steps to de-est Ukraine.

Imposition of Sanctions on Several Russian State-Owned Firms Pursuant to E.O. 13661 and E.O. 13662 for Operation in the Defense or R in Russia

Treasury today has also imposed new sanctions and strengthened existing sanctions targeting firms operating in Russia's defense sector.

Determination about Russia's Defense and Related Material Sector and Imposition of Sanctions against Rostec. Treasury Secretary Jacob determination under E.O. 13662 that persons operating within Russia's defense and related material sector may now be subject to targeter Secretary Lew's determination, Treasury issued a new directive that imposes sanctions on Rostec, a major Russian conglomerate that ope and related material sector. Directive 3 pursuant to E.O. 13662 prohibits transactions in, provision of financing for, and other dealings in ne 30 days maturity issued by Rostec, and its 50 percent or more owned subsidiaries, effectively cutting it off from U.S. debt financing.

Rostec is a Russia-based state-owned holding company for Russia's defense industry. Rostec produces, develops, manufactures, a military, and dual-purpose high-technology goods, and is involved in the manufacturing of weapons and military equipment. Rostec-held stand export military products valued in the billions. Treasury designated Rostec's Director General, Sergei Viktorovich Chemezov, on April: E.O. 13661.

Designation of Additional Defense Technology Companies under E.O. 13661. Treasury has also designated and blocked the assets of five under E.O. 13661 for operating in the arms and related materiel sector in the Russian Federation. The firms designated today under E.O. 'Dolgoprudny Research Production Enterprise,' Mytishchinski Mashinostroitelny Zavod OAO, Kalinin Machine Plant JSC, Almaz-Antey GSI designated firms are responsible for the production of a range of materiel, from small arms to mortar shells to tanks. As a result of today's 13661, any assets of these entities that are within U.S. jurisdiction must be frozen. Additionally, transactions by U.S. persons or within the these entities are generally prohibited.

- OAO 'Dolgoprudny Research Production Enterprise' is a Russia-based company, which is primarily engaged in the production of we
 including the Buk missile system, known in the West as "Gadfly" or SA-11 or SA-17.
- Mytishchinski Mashinostroitelny Zavod, OAO is a Moscow-based company that has produced weaponry and equipment focusing pri
 missile systems and chassis for tracked military vehicles.
- Kalinin Machine Plant JSC is a Russia-based, state-run company involved in the production of special purpose products such as we
 combat anti-air missile system facilities for the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation. Kalinin Machine Plant JSC produces artiller
 anti-air defense and specializes in the production of launchers and anti-air missiles.
- Almaz-Antey GSKB is a Moscow-based subsidiary of the Almaz-Antey Concern, which was designated under E.O. 13661 on July 16 GSKB designs and manufactures air defense systems for the Russian Ministry of Defense.
- JSC NIIP is a Zhukovski-based Russian defense industrial firm owned by the Almaz-Antey Concern. JSC NIIP develops anti-aircraf
 including on-board radar systems for MiG and Sukhoi fighters, and anti-aircraft missile systems for land forces, including the KUB and BUI-

Expansion of Prohibition of Certain Types of Activities with Several Russian State-Owned Financial Institutions Pursuant to E.O. 13662

Treasury today has imposed new sanctions and strengthened existing sanctions in Russia's financial sector.

Imposition of Sanctions against Sberbank of Russia and Lowering of Allowable Maturity for New Debt Issuance for Sanctioned Financial In also modified Directive 1 pursuant to E.O. 13662 to lower the allowable maturity for new debt from 90 to 30 days, and has added Sberbank subject to the restrictions in Directive 1. Directive 1 pursuant to E.O. 13662 now prohibits transactions in, provision of financing for, or other of greater than 30 days maturity and new equity of the banks listed under this Directive, by U.S. persons or within the United States. As a step will further remove access to U.S. dollar financing for these financial institutions, and impose additional significant costs on the Russia continued provocations.

 Sberbank of Russia is Russia's largest financial institution. Sberbank accounts for approximately one-quarter of Russian banking as banking capital.

https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/jl2629.aspx

Prohibition of Certain Types of Activities with Several Russian State-Owned Energy Companies Pursuant to E.O. 13662

Treasury today has imposed new sanctions and strengthened existing sanctions targeting firms operating in Russia's energy sector.

Prohibition on Goods, Services, and Technology for Certain Energy Sector Activities. New Directive 4 issued pursuant to E.O. 13662 prohi exportation, or reexportation of goods, services (except for financial services), or technology by U.S. persons or from the United States in a production for deepwater, Arctic offshore, or shale projects that have the potential to produce oil in the Russian Federation, or in maritime a Russian Federation and extending from its territory, and that involve five listed Russian energy companies: Gazprom, Gazprom Neft, Lukoi Rosneft. Treasury initially imposed sanctions against Rosneft, Russia's largest petroleum company and third-largest gas producer, pursua 17, 2014. Today's step, which complements Commerce Department restrictions and is similar to new EU measures published today, will in develop so-called frontier or unconventional oil resources, areas in which Russian firms are heavily dependent on U.S. and western technic sanctions do not target or interfere with the current supply of energy from Russia or prevent Russian companies from selling oil and gas to it difficult for Russia to develop long-term, technically challenging future projects.

- OAO Gazprom is a Russia-based, government-owned global energy company engaged in gas exploration, production, transportation and sales. It is one of the largest joint stock companies in Russia.
- Gazprom Neft is an integrated Russian oil company engaged in the exploration, development, production, transportation, and sale o is also involved in oil refining, marketing of petroleum products, oil field services, and construction and development of exploration wells. owned by Gazprom.
- Lukoil OAO is a Russia-based integrated oil and gas company. Lukoil is engaged in the business of oil exploration, production, refin distribution. The company is an owner of refineries, gas processing, petrochemical plants, and gas station networks located in Russia and
- Surgutneftegas is a Russian oil company involved in oil and gas production and exploration, gas processing, power generation, outp petroleum products, petrochemicals and gas products.

Imposition of Sanctions against Gazprom Neft and Transneft. Treasury has added two Russian energy companies, Gazprom Neft and Tra prohibitions under Directive 2 pursuant to E.O. 13662. Transactions in, provision of financing for, and other dealings in new debt of greater for these two companies, and their 50 percent or more owned subsidiaries, by U.S. persons or within the United States are prohibited. This their ability to raise financing in U.S. dollars, which is critical for their exploration and development of new oil fields.

- Gazprom Neft (see above).
- AK Transneft OAO is Russia's government-owned pipeline company. The company provides services for oil and oil products transp pipelines systems within the Russian Federation and abroad.

For identifying information on the entities named in this release, please click here. For links to the Directives referenced in this release, please click here.

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https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/jl2629.aspx

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Alexey Miller and Kazakh Energy Minister Kanat Bozumbayev address cooperation prospects

Release

February 26, 2018, 17:45

A working meeting between Alexev Miller, Chairman of the Gazprom Management Committee, and Kanat Bozumbayev, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, took place in St. Petersburg today.

The parties discussed the ongoing and future cooperation in the gas sector. It was noted that Gazprom had provided reliable gas supplies to Kazakhstan in 2017, delivering a total of 4.7 billion cubic meters of gas, the same amount as in 2016.

The meeting also touched upon the efforts to bring gas to various areas in Astana and the northeastern parts of Kazakhstan. Those areas are currently supplied with Russian LNG, with 2,600 tons delivered to Kazakhstan in 2017.

Background

The explored reserves of natural gas in the Republic of Kazakhstan amount to some 3.7 trillion cubic meters.

In December 2016, Gazorom Export and Global Gas Regazification (Global Gas Group) signed the Contract to ship LNG by motor transport from Russia to Kazakhstan. Supplies under the contract commenced in December 2016.

Information Directorate, Gazprom

Contacts for media +7 812 609-34-05 +7 812 609-34-31 +7 812 609-34-26	Contacts for investors +7 812 609-41-29 ir@gazprom.ru
pr@qazprom.ru	

This press release can be viewed online at: http://www.einpresswire.com

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01

This article was published on the site of Russian news agency Interfax, and accessed on March 13, 2018. Its title is "At a meeting with Medvedev, Miller reported on the very low levels of natural gas in Europe's underground gas storage facilities":

INTERFAX

Economics 15:38 13 March 2018

At a meeting with Medvedev, Miller reported on the very low levels of natural gas in Europe's underground gas storage facilities

Moscow. 13 March. INTERFAX.RU – The levels of natural gas in underground storage facilities is very low, in some places even critical, said head of Gazprom Alexey Miller at a meeting with Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev.

[...]

Miller added that Gazprom fully met the demand of European consumers for natural gas this winter, including during the February cold spell. "Without a doubt, the very cold month of February in Russia and in Europe had an impact on gas shipments this winter. On the other hand, Gazprom fully met the demand of both Russian consumers and consumers in the European market," — he noted.

This translation was completed on March 13, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.



ЭКОНОМИКА

15:38, 13 марта 2018

Миллер на встрече с Медведевым сообщил об очень низком уровне запасов газа в ПХГ Европы

Москва. 13 марта. INTERFAX.RU - Уровень запасов газа в подземных хранилищах очень низкий, где-то даже критический, заявил глава "Газпрома" Алексей Миллер на встрече с премьер-министром Дмитрием Медведевым.

"В подземных хранилищах Европы сегодня осталось газа очень мало, где-то всего-навсего 25%. В некоторых странах этот уровень вообще является критическим - 10%. Но это значит, что в предстоящий период закачки летом спрос на российский газ будет также высоким", - сказал он.

"И, конечно, в условиях, когда добыча газа в самом Европейском союзе снижается, когда растет спрос на российский газ, мы видим, что растет спрос не пиковый, еще большую актуальность приобретают новые экспортные газотранспортные проекты поставки нашего российского газа на зарубежные рынки - это и "Турецкий поток", и "Северный поток-2", - подчеркнул он.

Премьер-министр со своей стороны подчеркнул, что растущий спрос на российский газ ставит задачу оптимизации поставок этого газа на европейский рынок. "Действительно, когда динамика потребления российского газа показывает, что это весьма востребованный продукт на европейском рынке, причем объемы его потребления растут, действительно это делает весьма актуальной задачу оптимизации поставок этого газа на европейский рынок, включая те, о которых вы сказали", - сказал он.

Миллер добавил, что "Газпром" в полном объеме удовлетворил спрос европейских потребителей на газ этой зимой, в том числе в период февральских холодов. "Без сомнения на поставки газа нынешней зимой оказал влияние очень холодный февраль и в России, и в Европе. С другой стороны, "Газпром" в полном объеме удовлетворил спрос со стороны и российских потребителей, и потребителей на европейском рынке", - отметил он.

"Суммарно за февраль месяц мы установили исторически рекорд поставок газа на европейский рынок - 17,4 млрд кубометров газа. Это на 6,8% выше, чем в историческом по объему поставок феврале 2017 года. В течение 10 дней подряд "Газпром" обновлял исторические суточные рекорды поставок на европейский рынок, и 2 марта мы установили новый суточный рекорд, поставили 714,3 млн кубометров газа. Это очень-очень большие объемы, и объемы поставлены благодаря тому, что компания "Газпром", Россия, располагает соответствующими мощностями для поставок газа в таких объемах для удовлетворения пикового спроса", - сказал глава "Газпрома".

Новости по теме

3 марта 14:45

"Газпром" 10-й день подряд обновил рекорды экспорта

21 despans 13:10

Морозы помогли "Газпрому" вернуть в феврале экспорт к росту

Экономика

http://www.interfax.ru/business/603383

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This article was published on the site of Russian government news agency TASS on November 15, 2017, and accessed on March 13, 2018. Its title is "Putin presented state awards":

[Page 1]

Putin presented state awards

Society

15 November 2017 17:09

50 Russians with high-level achievements in their fields were guests at the ceremony

[Page 2]

Moscow. 15 November. /TASS/. President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin held a ceremony to present state awards. In attendance were 50 Russians who attained high-level achievements in their fields, including cosmonaut Aleksey Ovchinin, who received the Gold Star and a certificate of conferring the honorary title of the Hero of Russia.

Orders "For Service to the Fatherland" of the First Degree were awarded to Russian Academy of Sciences academician and one of the founders if thermonuclear weapons Yuriy Trutnev, who recently turned 90, and to the head of Gazprom Alexey Miller. [...]

This translation was completed on March 13, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.



Путин вручил государственные награды

Общество 15 ноября 2017, 17:09 дата обновления: 15 ноября 2017, 17:41 () UTC+3

Гостями церемонии стали пять десятков россиян, добившихся высоких результатов в своей деятельности



http://tass.ru/obschestvo/4731735

МОСКВА, 15 ноября. /ТАСС/. Президент РФ Владимир Путин провел торжественную церемонию вручения государственных наград. Ее гостями стали пять десятков россиян, добившихся высоких результатов в своей деятельности, в том числе летчиккосмонавт Алексей Овчинин, которому глава государства вручил Золотую Звезду и удостоверение о присвоении почетного звания Героя России.

Ордена "За заслуги перед Отечеством" I степени удостоен, в частности, академик РАН, один из основоположников и создателей термоядерного оружия Юрий Трутнев, недавно отметивший 90-летие, а также глава "Газпрома" Алексей Миллер. Ту же награду, но II степени получили в числе других худрук московского театра "Et Cetera" Александр Калягин, космонавт Юрий Маленченко и бывший губернатор Нижегородской области Валерий Шанцев.

Орден "За заслуги перед Отечеством" III степени президент вручил, в частности, космонавту Сергею Волкову, ректорам Высшей школы экономики Ярославу Кузьминову и РАНХиГС Владимиру Мау. Орден IV степени получили в том числе космонавты Михаил Корниенко и Антон Шкаплеров, а также президент АО "Согласие" Ара Абрамян.

Бывшие главы ряда регионов - Дагестана Рамазан Абдулатипов, Самарской области Николай Меркушкин, Красноярского края Виктор Толоконский - удостоены ордена Александра Невского. Эту же награду президент вручил главе РФПИ Кириллу Дмитриеву.

Орден Мужества из рук главы государства получил полковник полиции Александр Бережной, который в ноябре 2016 года получил ранение во время операции по освобождению заложников в Нижегородской области, а также начальник летно-испытательного комплекса НПО "Радар мсс" Владимир Скрынников.

Путин также вручил орден Почета певцу Филиппу Киркорову, главному тренеру сборной РФ по фехтованию Ильгару Яшар олгы Мамедову, а орден Дружбы - бывшим губернаторам Новосибирской, Ивановской, Омской, Орловской областей, Ненецкого автономного округа и Приморья Владимиру Городецкому, Павлу Конькову, Виктору Назарову, Вадиму Потомскому, Игорю Кошину, Владимиру Миклушевскому. Медаль ордена "За заслуги перед Отечеством" II степени получил экс-глава Псковской области, временно исполняющий обязанности секретаря Генсовета "Единой России" Андрей Турчак.

Путин о награжденных

Владимир Путин назвал награждаемых выдающимися гражданами, которые "своим талантом, трудом и мужеством возвышают родную страну", вдохновляют и задают ориентиры

Президент отметил, что представителей отряда космонавтов, которые находятся среди награжденных, традиционно отличает умение решать труднейшие задачи. Академика Юрия Трутнева Путин назвал выдающимся ученым, чей вклад в обороноспособность страны, создание надежного ядерного щита и становление атомной энергетики "без преувеличения исключительный".

Глава государства также выразил признательность бывшим руководителям регионов, которые будут работать на новых участках. "Уверен, ваш опыт, профессиональные качества обязательно будут востребованы на благо страны", - обратился он к награжденным экс-губернаторам.

"Наша общая цель - устойчивое социально-экономическое развитие России, всех ее регионов. Огромную роль в этом играют настоящие труженики, люди, занятые на производственных предприятиях, в агропромышленном комплексе", - продолжил Путин. Президент обратился и к деятелям искусства, врачам, ректорам, предпринимателям и другим награжденным. "Все вы достойно выполняете свой долг, не останавливаетесь на достигнутом, постоянно ставите перед собой новые цели и задачи", - сказал глава государства.

Одного из награждаемых - главного тренера сборной России по фехтованию Ильгара Мамедова Путин поздравил с отмечаемым в среду днем рождения.

Yandex Zen

Personal feed





In her words: Kaylee Muthart explains what made her pull out her eyes

Preferences

This article was published by Russian online news source Gazeta.ru on March 1, 2018, and accessed on March 13, 2018. Its title is "Medvedev awarded the Stolypin medal to Miller":

Gazeta.ru

Medvedev awarded the Stolypin medal to Miller

1 March 2018 | 16:30

[Image]

Russia's Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev awarded the Stolypin medal of the First Degree to the Chairman of the Management Committee of Gazprom Alexey Miller. The corresponding document was published on the official legislative information web portal.

"For accomplishments in development of domestic natural gas complex and many years of dedicated work, award the P.A. Stolypin medal of the First Degree to the Chairman of the Management Committee of the public joint-stock company Gazprom Alexey Borisovich Miller," states the document.

In November 2017, Russia's President Vladimir Putin awarded the Order "For Service to the Fatherland" of the First Degree to Chairman of the Management Committee of Gazprom Alexey Miller.

This translation was completed on March 13, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.

газета.ru

Медведев наградил Миллера медалью Столыпина

01.03.2018 | 16:30



Премьер-министр России Дмитрий Медведев наградил председателя правления «Газпрома» Алексея Миллера медалью Столыпина I степени. Соответствующий документ **опубликован** на официальном интернет-портале правовой информации.

«За заслуги в развитии отечественного газового комплекса и многолетнюю добросовестную работу наградить медалью Столыпина П.А. I степени председателя правления публичного акционерного общества «Газпром» Миллера Алексея Борисовича», — говорится в документе.

В ноябре 2017 года президент России Владимир Путин **наградил** председателя правления «Газпрома» Алексея Миллера Орденом за заслуги перед Отечеством I степени.

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https://www.gazeta.ru/business/news/2018/03/01/n_11231641.shtml?updated

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Alexander Torshin

Alexander Torshin was born on 27 November 1953 in the village of Mitoga, Ust-Bolsheretsky district, the Kamchatka Region.

Education

In 1978, Alexander P. Torshin graduated from the All-Union Correspondence Institute of Law (currently, Kutafin Moscow State Law University); he is a Candidate of Juridical Sciences and Associate Professor.

Professional experience

Alexander Torshin began his career at the registry of the Prosecutor General's Office of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) as a secretary and a senior document controller; he later served in various capacities at the Ministry of Timber and Woodworking Industry of the USSR and the Ministry of the Fuel Industry of the RSFSR.

Between 1973 and 1975, he served in the Soviet Army.

In 1981, Alexander Torshin completed a PhD thesis and decided to pursue an academic career, working as a teacher with the Theory of State and Law Department at the All-Union Correspondence Institute of Law. He thereafter joined the Academy of Sciences of the USSR where he served in 1983-1987 as an academic secretary and a senior research scientist.

He continued to pursue an academic career between 1987 and 1990 as Senior Teacher and, subsequently, Associate Professor with the Academy of the Social Sciences under the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU Central Committee); in 1990-1991, he worked as a senior assistant and consultant of the CPSU Central Committee's Section for Interaction with Political and Social Organisations.

In 1991, Alexander served as an expert of the Executive Office of the USSR President, where he also led the Political and Social Interaction Section between 1991 and 1993; he was a member of the Board of the RSFSR State Councillor's Service for Interaction with Non-Governmental Organisations and later served as Adviser to Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office.

Between 1993 and 1995, Alexander served as Deputy Group Supervisor, Group Supervisor and Head of Section, the Department for Interaction with the Federal Assembly and Nongovernmental Organisations, the Executive Office of the Government of the Russian Federation.

In 1995-1998, he served as Secretary and State Secretary to the Central Bank of the Russian Federation.

In 1998, he rejoined the Executive Office of the Government of the Russian Federation to serve through 1999 in the capacity of Deputy Chief of Staff of the Executive Office of the Government of the Russian Federation.

Between 1999 and 2001, State Secretary / Deputy General Director, Agency for Restructuring of Credit Institutions State Corporation.

Between 2001 and 2015, member of the Council of the Federation, Deputy Chairman (2002), First Deputy Chairman of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.

On 21 January 2015, Alexander Torshin was appointed State Secretary / Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation.

http://www.cbr.ru/eng/today/?PrtId=bankstructute





Press Service

The Central Bank of the Russian Federation (Bank of Russia)

Press Service

12 Neglinnaya Street, Moscow, 107016 Russia; www.cbr.ru

Information Notice

On appointing Alexander Torshin as State Secretary – Deputy Governor of the Bank of Russia

By the Order of the Bank of Russia Governor Alexander Torshin was appointed as State Secretary — Deputy Governor of the Bank of Russia from 21 January 2015.

A. Torshin will be responsible for liaison with the Federal Assembly chambers, and also federal and regional state executive bodies.

20 January 2015

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Address: 12 Neglinnaya Street, Moscow, 107016 Russia

tel.: +7 495 771-91-00, fax: +7 495 621-64-65

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[Page 1]

March 13, Tuesday Kommersant.ru | Conference

Speakers

Cryptocurrency and other blockchain technology products as subjects of intellectual property

11/23/2017 3:50 PM

Igor Shuvalov

First Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Biography (https://kommersant.ru/doc/3493702)

Anatoliy Aksakov

Chairman of State Duma Financial Market Committee Biography (https://kommersant.ru/doc/3480061)

Alexander Torshin

State Secretary – Deputy Governor of the Bank of Russia Biography (https://kommersant.ru/doc/3493704)

[...]

This translation was completed on March 13, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.

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Спикеры

Криптовалюта и другие продукты технологии блокчейн как объекты интеллектуальной собственности

23.11.2017, 15:50

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Иван Советников

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"Коммерсантъ" (https://kommersant.ru/online/2017-11-23) от 23.11.2017, 15:50

■ КОММЕНТИРОВАТЬ (HTTPS://KOMMERSANT.RU#COMMENTS)

17:10 / 03.04.2017

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To russian version (https://crimerussia.com/organizedcrime/ispaniya-snova-obvinyaet-zampreda-tsb-rf-torshina-v-otmyvanii-deneg-i-svyazyakh-s-kriminalitetom/)

Spain reaccuses Central Bank Deputy Chairman Torshin of money laundering and criminal connections



Alexander Torshin

MAIN

os.os.2018 Arrest extended for alleged 'tresurer' of Orekhovo-Medvedkovo OCG (/organizedcrime/arrestextended-foralleged-tresurer-oforekhovomedvedkovo-ocg/)

07.03.2018
Tambovskaya gang kingpin Fima
Banshchik rounded up in Minsk (/organizedcrime/tambo gang-kingpin-fima-banshchik-rounded-up-in-minsk/)

o5.03.2018 Les's gang killer tells about his 'work' (/organizedcrime/less-gang-killer-tellsabout-his-work/)

(/organizedcrime/) All materials from plot:

Russian mafia abroad

Newspaper El Pais became aware of the details of the report of the Spanish (/plots/russian_Civil Guard to the Anti-Corruption

mafiaabroad/)

Prosecutor's Office of the country as of June 14, 2016. They confirm that the confiscated property of leader of Taganskaya crime group Alexander Romanov, convicted in Spain for laundering money and swindling,

Related news:

belonged to Deputy Chairman of the Central Bank Alexander Torshin.

Alexander Romanov. leader of Taganskaya organized

crime group,

pleaded guilty in money laundering

in Spain

romanovleader-oftaganskayaorganizedcrimegroup-

pleadedguilty-inmoneylaunderingin-s/)

Deputy Chairman of Bank of Russia

Alexander Torshin stated

about his

According to the publication, the Civil Guard has 33 audio

recordings of telephone

(/organizedcrime/Mexantiens between Torshin and his confidant in Spain Alexander Romanov from August 7, 2012 to May 13, 2013.

> According to the newspaper, these negotiations show Torshin's participation in Romanov's semilegal hotel business. In particular, it is

reported that 80% of Mar I Pins hotel in Mallorca, in which

Romanov invested 15 million euros of Taganskaya gang, belongs to

noninvolvement Alexander Torshin.

Taganka OCG and Russian

mafia in

RELATED NEWS:

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(/plots/russian-mafia-abload/)

The report states that the partnership between

Romanov and Torshin began to develop between 1995 and 1998, when Torshin served as

State Secretary of the Central Bank of Russia for Spain (/organizedcrirthed的) the control of the control o chairmanhis leadership. In addition to business relations, of-bank-Torshin and Romanov were connected with of-russiafriendly relations, the newspaper writes. In alexanderparticular, it is known that Torshin is the torshingodfather of a Romanov's child. The document statedof the Spanish law enforcement agencies call the about-hisnoninvolvementeputy Chairman of the Central Bank of the to-Russian Federation the owner of the financial tagankaflows of Taganskaya crime group laundered in ocg-a/)

Spain.

Transcripts of telephone conversations that were recorded with the sanction of the Spanish court indicate this. Among them there are Romanov's talks featuring that "the boss himself cannot buy the hotel, because he is a civil servant" and that the "godfather" intends to leave the hotel as a legacy of one of his two daughters.

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The publication notes that in general telephone conversations were conducted from the phone of Alexander Torshin's wife in order to observe safety, but some official's calls were made from his working number in the Federation Council. Among other proofs of the connection of the former senator with the Tagansky leader in Spain there is the email address of Torshin senator@umail.ru (mailto:senator@umail.ru) in the autosuggestion of his email account found during the arrest of Romanov.

The Spanish law enforcement authorities had suspicions that Torshin personally gave instructions to members of Taganskaya gang in Moscow about the methods of money laundering using Spanish bank accounts and real estate.

As The CrimeRussia has reported, in the 90s Alexander Romanov held senior positions in a number of Russian companies directly connected with various gangs (Solntsevskaya, Izmaylovskaya and Taganskaya). In particular, Romanov was the CEO of Kristall plant between 2000 and 2005, before that he worked in the

Central Bank under the direct supervision of Torshin. In 2005 Romanov was sentenced by Russian court for 3.5 years for swindling. After being released on parole he left for Spain.

The allegations of Alexander Torshin's links with organized crime and money laundering in Spain first sounded in 2014 after the law enforcement authorities of Spain detained ten people in Mallorca on suspicion of swindling, among whom there were Romanov along with his wife Natalya Vinogradova. The detention revealed Romanov's documents that indicated the contact of members of the organized criminal group with the political leader in connection with a series of raider seizures.

In the summer of 2016 Bloomberg published information about Alexander Torshin's contacts with organized crime in Russia again, but at first they were refuted by Torshin himself, and then by the Spanish Civil Guard, to which the agency referred.

Tags: Moscow (/search/?tags=Moscow) | Central Bank (/search/?tags= Central Bank)

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«Crime Russia» is a unique project created in 2009, prime advantage of which is a conception «all at once»: all

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Russia, are gathered on one resource.

Одноклассники

The project is oriented towards the revelation of corrupted officials, organized crime representatives, who are tied to the law enforcement and ruling establishments. The project's sections accumulate the most interesting and topical information about the Crime Russia events.

The project constantly evolves, increasingly publishing new exclusive materials, which are based on reliable information. Moreover, starting from 2015 a unique base «Persons» started to form. It allows getting comprehensive information about persons involved in cases, corruption and criminal scandals and chained events.

Under conditions of developing globalization and with our readers interested in being in touch with the latest topical events, Crime Russia decided to submit the project on social networks VK, Facebook, Twitter. «Crime Russia» also has a YouTube channel, which gains momentum and becomes more popular every day.

Contacts:

Citadel Media Group Limited. Room 1203, 12/F, Tower 3, China Hong Kong City, 33 Canton Road. Tsimshatsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

+ 357 2200 9647

info@cmg.im (mailto:info@cmg.im)

Chief editor: Elena Vavilova



Spain profile - Media

21 March 2017



Broadcasting in Spain has witnessed a significant expansion in recent years with the emergence of new commercial operators and the launch of digital services.

The cable and satellite TV markets have grown and Spain has made the switch to digital terrestrial TV (DTT).

Home-produced dramas, reality shows and long-running "telenovelas" are staple fare on primetime TV.

RadioTelevision Espanola (RTVE) is the public broadcaster. There are 13 regional TV stations backed by regional governments and many local stations. Multichannel TV is offered by satellite platform Digital Plus.

In 2012, media freedom group Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said the government was "reasserting control" over RTVE. It cited the removal of several journalists with a reputation for criticizing the governing Popular Party.

RSF includes Basque separatist group ETA in its list of press freedom "predators". It says several Spanish journalists still live and work under police protection because of threats.

There is a "free and lively" press, says US-based Freedom House. Ownership of daily newspapers is concentrated within large media groups.

There were more than 31.6 million internet users by June 2012, and nearly 17.6 million Facebook users by December 2012 (Internetworldstats).

The press

EL PAÍS

- El Mundo Madrid-based daily
- El Pais Madrid-based daily
- ABC Madrid-based daily
- La Razon Madrid-based daily
- La Vanguardia Barcelona-based daily
- El Periodico de Catalunya Barcelona-based daily

Television

- TVE public, services include national networks La Primera and La 2, satellite-delivered
 TVE Internacional, rolling news channel 24 Horas
- Tele Cinco national, commercial
- Antena 3 national, commercial
- Cuatro national, commercial

Radio

- RNE public, services include speech network Radio 1, cultural network Radio Clasica, youth-oriented Radio 3, news station Radio 5 Todo Noticias
- Cadena SER commercial, operates more than 50 national, regional stations
- Onda Cero commercial
- Cadena COPE church-controlled

News agencies

- EFE government-owned
- Europa Press private
- Colpisa private

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1 March 2018

Andorra country profile

2 November 2017

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4 September 2017

Austria country profile

21 December 2017

Azerbaijan country profile

2 January 2018

Belarus country profile

10 October 2017

Belgium country profile

30 November 2017

Bosnia-Herzegovina



This is a snapshot of the official Twitter account of Alexander Torshin, accessed on March 8, 2018.

[Background Imgae] [Profile Picture]

A.P. Torshin [account verified by Twitter] @torshin_ru

Alexander Porfiryevich Torshin. State-Secretary, Deputy Chairman of the Bank of Russia

[Link to] torshin.info

Joined June 2011

This translation was completed on March 9, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.

This page was published on the official site of the State Duma, the lower house of parliament of the Russian Federation, and accessed on March 8, 2018. Its title is "Reznik, Vladislav Matusovich":

[Link] http://www.duma.gov.ru/structure/deputies/1756624/

Reznik, Vladislav Matusovich

Deputy of State Duma elected from electoral district 0001 (Adygean - Republic of Adygea (Adygea))

Date of entry into office: 18 September 2016 (seventh convocation)

- · Member of the "United Russia" Party
- Member of the State Duma Committee on Finances

Date of birth: 17 May 1954

Connections to electorate in regions of the Russian Federation

Republic of Adygea (Adygea)

Education

Leningrad State University named after A. A. Zhdanov (1976)

This translation was completed on March 8, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.



ГОСУДАРСТВЕННАЯ ДУМА

http://www.duma.gov.ru/structure/deputies/1756624/

Резник Владислав Матусович



Депутат Государственной Думы избран от избирательного округа 0001 (Адыгейский – Республика Адыгея (Адыгея))

Дата начала полномочий: 18 сентября 2016 года (седьмой созыв)

- Член фракции «ЕДИНАЯ РОССИЯ»
- Член Комитета ГД по бюджету и налогам

Дата рождения: 17 мая 1954 года

Связь с избирателями в регионах РФ

* Республика Адыгея (Адыгея)

Образование

 Ленинградский государственный университет им. А.А. Жданова (1976)

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www.duma.gov.ru

This article was published on the website of RIA Novosti, a Russian state-owned online news source, and accessed on March 12, 2018. Its title is "Putin relieved gardeners from water tariff payments":

[Page 2]

SOCIETY

Putin relieved gardeners from water tariff payments

17:05 March 7, 2018

Moscow, 7 *Mar* – *RIA Novosti*. President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin signed a law on relieving gardening and dacha cooperatives of payments on state water tariffs [...]

[Page 3]

[...]

Member of the [State Duma] Committee on Finances Vladislav Reznik reminded RIA Novosti that this legislative initiative was prepared in response to tasking from Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev based on outcomes of a meeting with representatives of gardening and dacha cooperatives, which took place August 22, 2016 during a work visit to the Kursk region.[...]

This translation was completed on March 12, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.







ГЛАВНОЕ

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политика

РАДИО SPUTNIK

общество экономика

ОБЩЕСТВО

Путин освободил садоводов от уплаты пошлины за добычу воды

17:05 07.03.2018





© РИА Новости / Алексей Дружинин

Перейти в фотобанк

МОСКВА, 7 мар — **РИА Новости.** Президент РФ Владимир Путин подписал закон об освобождении до 2020 года садоводческих, огороднических и дачных товариществ от уплаты госпошлины при получении лицензии за право пользования недрами для добычи подземных вод в бытовых целях, следует из опубликованного на портале правовой информации документа.



EP возъмет на контроль повышение налоговой ставки на садоводческие участки

Действующее законодательство предоставляет право осуществлять добычу подземных вод без получения лицензии некоммерческим организациям, Наверозданным для ведения садоводства, огородничества или дачного хозяйства только до 1 января 2020 года. При этом Налоговым кодексом сейчас установлена пошлина 7,5 тысячи рублей за получение такой лицензии.

В целях стимулирования к получению соответствующих лицензий законопроектом предлагается освободить соответствующие некоммерческие организации от пошлины за получение лицензии, если они обратятся за ней до 1 января 2020 года.

Член комитета по бюджету и налогам Владислав Резник напомнил РИА Новости, что эта законодательная инициатива была подготовлена во исполнение поручения премьер-министра РФ Дмитрия Медведева по итогам встречи с представителями садоводческих, огороднических и дачных хозяйств, состоявшейся 22 августа 2016 года в рамках рабочей поездки в Курскую область. На ней отмечалось, что у многих крупных товариществ есть артезианские скважины, где хорошая вода, которые, однако, не оформлены.



Путин подписал закон о садоводческих и огороднических товариществах

В связи с этим впоследствии законодательно было закреплено освобождение таких товариществ от получения лицензии за право пользования недрами для добычи подземных вод. Данная льгота прекратит свое действие с 2020 года, а тем из товариществ, которые обратятся до истечения установленного срока за соответствующей лицензией, платить госпошлину не придется. А, следовательно, и финансовая нагрузка на них снизится, отмечал депутат.

Заместитель министра финансов РФ Илья Трунин еще при рассмотрении законопроекта в первом чтении пояснял, что в настоящее время в России зарегистрировано порядка 60 тысяч некоммерческих организаций, созданных для ведения садоводства, огородничества или дачного хозяйства. И если предположить, что все они обратятся до 1 января 2020 года за получением лицензии и пошлину не уплатят, то, по его словам, сумма такой неуплаченной пошлины составит порядка 450 миллионов рублей. Но это не выпадающие доходы бюджета, поскольку данные организации до 1 января 2020 года

This article was published on the website of Russian government news agency TASS, and accessed on March 12, 2018. Its title is "Deputy Vladislav Reznik denied existence of contacts with the 'Russian mafia' at trial in Spain":

[Page 1]

TASS | Russia's Information Agency

Deputy Vladislav Reznik denied existence of contacts with the 'Russian mafia' at trial in Spain

Events 27 February, 20:05 UTC+3

The prosecutors believe the Russian parliamentarian maintains "close contact at personal and business levels with a suspected head of the criminal group, Gennady Petrov.

MADRID 27 February /TASS/. State Duma Deputy Vladislav Reznik testified on Tuesday in the 'Russian mafia' case at the National Court in Spain. The Russian citizen denied the presence of any contacts with the criminal group, EFE news agency reported.

[...]

This translation was completed on March 13, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.



Депутат Владислав Резник на суде в Испании отрицал наличие контактов с "русской мафией"

Происшествия 27 февраля, 20:05

Прокуратура полагает, что российский парламентарий поддерживал "тесные отношения как на личном, так и на бизнес уровнях" с возможным главарем группировки Геннадием Петровым

МАДРИД 27 февраля /ТАСС/. Депутат Госдумы Владислав Резник дал во вторник показания в Национальной судебной коллегии Испании по делу "русской мафии". Россиянин отрицал наличие каких-либо контактов с преступной группировкой. сообщило агентство EFE.

Суд над 18 подозреваемыми в отмывании средств начался в Испании 19 февраля как ожидается, слушания продлятся около двух недель. Обвиняемым грозит до пяти с половиной лет тюремного заключения, а также штрафы. Прокуратура считает, что с 1996 года выходцы из России отмывали в Испании крупные суммы денег, полученные преступным путем. 17 из 18 подозреваемых лично явились на заседание.

Прокуратура полагает, что Резник поддерживал "тесные отношения как на личном, так и на бизнес уровнях" с возможным главарем группировки Геннадием Петровым. В свою очередь депутат отрицал любую связь с мафией.

В 2008 году правоохранительные органы королевства провели операцию "Тройка", в ходе которой была ликвидирована преступная группировка, действующая на территории страны. Считается, что ее главарем был Петров, которого сначала задержали испанские стражи порядка, однако затем он был выпущен на свободу. В 2012 году он бежал от испанского правосудия. Не исключается, что часть членов группировки могла быть связана с "тамбовской бандой".

Резник неоднократно отрицал все обвинения. Он заверял, что приехал в Испанию, чтобы доказать свою невиновность, поскольку доверяет суду королевства. Прокуратура просит для Резника пять с половиной лет лишения свободы.

Yandex Zen

Personal feed

Preferences

Take a Military Monday load-off (95 Photos)

Kris Jenner Revealed Why Kylie Jenner Kept Her Pregnancy A Secret

Oprah Just Taught Everyone How To Respond To Trump's Insults

HUFFINGTON POST I







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печати) Отдельные публикации могут содержать информацию, не предназначенную для пользователей до 16 лет.

Putin Allies Aided Russian Mafia in Spain, Prosecutors Say

by Esteban Duarte and Henry Meyer June 29, 2015 - 5:00 PM EDT

Some of Vladimir Putin's closest allies, including the chairman of OAO Gazprom, a deputy premier and two former ministers, helped one of Russia's largest criminal groups operate out of Spain for more than a decade, prosecutors in Madrid say.

Members of St. Petersburg's Tambov crime syndicate moved into Spain in 1996, when Putin was deputy mayor of the former czarist capital, to launder proceeds from their illicit activities, Juan Carrau and Jose Grinda wrote in a petition to the Central Court on May 29, a copy of which was obtained by Bloomberg News.

The 488-page complaint, the product of a decade of investigations into the spread of Russian organized crime during the Putin era, portrays links between the criminal enterprise and top law-enforcement officials and policy makers in Moscow. The petition, based on thousands of wiretaps, bank transfers and property transactions, is a formal request to charge 27 people with money laundering, fraud and other crimes. Approval by a judge would clear the way for a trial, but Spain doesn't try people in absentia.

The only Russian official facing possible charges is Vladislav Reznik, a member of Putin's ruling United Russia party and the deputy head of the finance committee in the lower house of parliament. The complaint, earlier reported by Spain's El Mundo and ABC newspapers, says Reznik helped the alleged leader of the enterprise, Gennady Petrov, get his associates appointed to key posts in Russia in exchange for assets in Spain. Prosecutors are seeking to confiscate a property they say Reznik owns on the resort island of Majorca.

'Clear Penetration'

"The criminal organization headed by Petrov managed to achieve a clear penetration of the state structures in his country, not only with the lawmaker Reznik but with several ministers," the prosecutors say in the petition.

Putin himself is mentioned by name three times in the document, including in a partial transcript of a call between two alleged Tambov operatives in 2007. The men are discussing an issue with a hotel in the Alicante region and one refers to a house that he says Putin owns in nearby Torrevieja.

"This is total nonsense," Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, said of the Spanish allegations. "It's beyond the realm of reason." Reznik, in an interview in Moscow, denied any wrongdoing. He said his relationship with Petrov is "purely social" and that he would welcome the opportunity to travel to Spain and clear his name if a trial takes place.

Bank Rossiya

While accusations of graft are not uncommon in Russia, which is tied with Nigeria in Transparency International's corruption perception ranking, few investigations have identified so many senior officials by name. The highest-ranking person publicly sanctioned under the U.S. Magnitsky Act, enacted in 2012 to punish Russians deemed complicit in the prison death of an accountant who alleged large-scale theft by officials, is a deputy general prosecutor.

Petrov was an early shareholder in Bank Rossiya, the St. Petersburg lender set up by some of Putin's oldest allies and the first company sanctioned by the U.S. after Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine. Spanish police arrested Petrov during a raid on his Majorca villa in 2008. He was later allowed to travel to Russia but never returned. Russia doesn't allow the extradition of its citizens.

A lawyer for Petrov, Roberto Mazorriaga, said by e-mail that prosecutors haven't provided any evidence to support their allegations.

'Mafia' State

Investigators in Spain have been at the vanguard of the fight against Russian organized crime, warning fellow NATO members for years of the dangers posed by what they call state-sanctioned syndicates, an issue that's become more acute since the conflict in Ukraine rekindled Cold War distrust.

After a briefing by Grinda, one of the prosecutors, in Madrid in 2010, U.S. officials concluded that Putin runs a "virtual mafia" state where the activities of criminal networks are indistinguishable from those of the government, according to a classified cable from the U.S. embassy in the Spanish capital that was published by WikiLeaks.

Russian security services control criminal groups and use them to do things the government "cannot acceptably do," Grinda was cited as telling U.S. officials at the time. One mafia leader in Spain was actually a Russian intelligence officer tasked with "selling weapons to the Kurds to destabilize Turkey," the embassy said in the cable.

Litvinenko Murder

A lawyer for the widow of dissident Russian agent Alexander Litvinenko, who died of radioactive poisoning in London in 2006, in January accused senior officials in Moscow of

ordering Litvinenko's death in part to prevent him from helping Spain root out Russian criminal networks.

The Kremlin has repeatedly denied having anything to do with Litvinenko's murder. In March, Putin awarded a medal to the chief suspect in the ongoing U.K. probe, fellow KGB veteran Andrei Lugovoi, who's now a member of parliament, for "services to the fatherland."

Petrov used Spain as a base to carry out criminal activities mainly in Russia, including murder, arms trafficking, drug smuggling, extortion and fraud, the prosecutors say, repeating some of the accusations that led to his 2008 arrest. Political and judicial contacts in Russia offered him help, including advice on his personal safety; inside information about business dealings; the threat posed by other criminal groups; planned actions against organized crime; and the amount of influence he needed to exert, they say.

Gazprom, Defense

His network in Moscow, according to the document, includes Viktor Zubkov, the chairman of gas exporter Gazprom who was prime minister and first deputy premier from 2007 to 2012, and Zubkov's son-in-law, former Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov.

Serdyukov "does business with Petrov" and Zubkov, who worked for Putin in the St. Petersburg government in the early 1990s, "favored Petrov's organization with some political decisions," the prosecutors say, without elaborating. Serdyukov's lawyer, Genrikh Padva, declined to comment and Zubkov didn't respond to a request for comment sent through Gazprom's press service. Neither man is facing indictment.

Other officials mentioned as being "directly related" to Petrov's group include Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Kozak and Alexander Bastrykin, who runs the powerful Investigative Committee that oversees major criminal inquiries. Bastrykin and Putin both earned their law degrees from Leningrad State University in 1975. Kozak graduated from the same law school a decade later and worked in City Hall at the same time as Putin.

Post-Soviet Chaos

Kozak -- about whom no detail is provided in the complaint -- said he only knows of Petrov through media reports, according to his spokesman, Ilya Djous. Bastrykin's committee said in a statement that it didn't have any information corroborating the reported information of Spanish prosecutors.

Another senior Russian official at the time, Leonid Reiman, who was communications minister and a Kremlin adviser from 1999 to 2010, was a business partner of Petrov's, the prosecutors say. Reiman has "no ties" to Petrov, OAO Angstrem, a technology company in Moscow that Reiman is chairman of, said by e-mail.

Petrov, 67, was an influential figure in St. Petersburg during the chaos that followed the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 and knew many of the city's political elite, including Zubkov, Bastrykin and Kozak, two people who knew him at the time said on condition of anonymity.

78 Calls

Petrov proved to be influential in Moscow under President Putin, too, the Spanish prosecutors say. When Putin created the Investigative Committee as a counterweight to the Prosecutor General's Office in 2007, Petrov helped secure Bastrykin's appointment as its first chairman, they say, citing wire taps of calls between Petrov and one of Bastrykin's future deputies.

Another law-enforcement official, Nikolai Aulov, is "one of the most important persons for Petrov" in Russia, according to the document. Aulov is a deputy of Viktor Ivanov, who runs the Federal Narcotics Service and is a former KGB colleague of Putin's in Leningrad and later St. Petersburg.

Investigators logged 78 phone calls between Aulov and Petrov. In March 2008, according to the complaint, Petrov asked an associate to get Aulov to pressure Russia's new customs chief to facilitate port shipments for his group.

The drug agency's press service referred requests for comment from Aulov and Ivanov to an interview Ivanov gave to the Kommersant newspaper this month. In it, Ivanov said he doesn't know what "dirty political games" the Spanish are playing because Aulov helped bust a criminal gang led by Petrov in St. Petersburg in the early 1990s.

"This Petrov probe could change the narrative of Putin in the West -- from being a Stalinist tyrant defending the interests of his country to being a product of gangster Petersburg who united authorities with organized crime," said Stanislav Belkovsky, a Kremlin adviser during Putin's first term who consults at Moscow's Institute for National Strategy.

http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-06-29/putin-allies-aided-russian-mafia-in-spain-prosecutors-say



RUSSIA

Russian Lawmaker Claims Innocence As Mafia Trial Opens In Spain

February 19, 2018 20:14 GMT RFE/RL

Russian lawmaker Vladislav Reznik and 17 other suspects have gone on trial in Spain accused of money laundering for two Russian organized-crime groups.

"I came to the session because I'm not guilty of anything and I trust the Spanish justice system," Reznik told the Madrid court on February 19, according to Russia's state-run RIA Novosti news agency.

Prosecutors are seeking jail sentences of up to 5 1/2 years for most of the suspects and fines of up to 100 million euros (\$124 million).

Prosecutors believe more than 50 million euros (\$62 million) of Russian mafia money was laundered by the Tambov and Malyshev gangs -- two of Russia's largest and best-known criminal organizations.

The indictment says they "clearly managed to penetrate layers of the state apparatus" and have "links to Russian economic, political, judicial, and police power."

Reznik is a member of the ruling United Russia party, and previously was the first deputy chairman of the Finance Committee in the lower house of Russia's parliament, the State Duma.

His wife, Diana Gindin, also went on trial, along with five Spaniards accused of helping the Russians' money-laundering activities.

The alleged gang bosses, Gennady Petrov and Aleksandr Malyshev, are still at large.

The case dates back to 2008, when Spanish police detained 20 Russian suspects.

The Tambov and Malyshev gangs both originated as protection rackets in St. Petersburg in the late 1980s. Rivals in the past, the two fought a bloody battle for supremacy in 1989 and are believed to control scores of industrial enterprises and engage in drug trafficking, prostitution, protection rackets, and money laundering.

The money laundering by Russian gangs in Spain is believed to have started in the 1990s, when rich Russians began buying luxury villas in the country.

With reporting by the BBC, RIA Novosti, and The Moscow Times

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RFE/RL: Free Med a In Unfree Soc et es

25

Languages

20

Countries

25.8 million

Estimated Audience / week (FY2017)

918 million

Page views on RFE/RL websites (FY2017)

278 million

Engaged users on Facebook (FY2017)

515 million

Views on YouTube (FY2017)

600+

Employees in Prague and Washington, and 750 freelancers in 18 bureaus \$117.4 million

Budget (FY2017)

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RFE/RL journalists report the news in 20 countries where a free press is banned by the government or not fully established. We provide what many people cannot get locally: uncensored news, responsible discussion, and open debate.

REF/RL is registered with the IRS as a private nonprofit Sec. 501(c)3_{TV} corporation, and is funded by a grant from the U.S. Congress through the Broadcasting Boardwift Covernors as a private grantee. RFE/RL's editorial independence is protected by U.S. law.

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Media Environment Guide: Russia - September 2016

Page 1 of 105

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Media Environment Guide: Russia - September 2016

(b)(3)

Caversham BBC Monitoring in English 1500

GMT 09 Sep 16

Media environment guide by BBC Monitoring on 9 September

KEY FINDINGS

Key media, especially TV, controlled by Kremlin and corporate allies.

Independent media subject to harassment and increasingly marginal.

Journalists continue to be target of threats and violence.

Regulatory environment increasingly tough and restrictive.

Kremlin increasing control over internet.

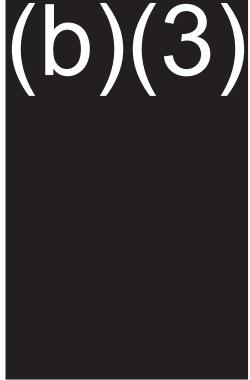
TV remains dominant medium and enjoys relatively high levels of public trust.

News coverage on Kremlin-controlled TV dominated by propaganda.

Russia has extensive international media operations which it uses to influence opinion around the world.

CONTENTS

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Overview
- 2.1 Media ownership
- 2.2 Media funding
- 2.3 Media and news consumption
- 2.4 Media regulation
- 3. Media freedom
- 3.1 Violence and intimidation



Ekspress Gazeta (http://eg.ru) is a down-market weekly tabloid that is part of the pro-Kremlin Komsomolskaya Pravda Publishing House. It has a modest amount of political material, most of which is crudely patriotic and sensationalist. Its website gets around 1.2m desktop visitors a month in Russia, according to TNS.

Izvestia (www.izvestia.ru) has been a staunchly pro-government newspaper since 2005, when it was sold to Gazprom-Media. It is now owned by the National Media Group (NMG), another big media conglomeration with close ties to the Kremlin. Between 2011 and 2016, it was run by tabloid entrepreneur Aram Gabrelyanov as part of his News Media stable, which mainly comprises sensationalist, tabloid-style media. But, according to Vedomosti, Gabrelyanov's contract to run the newspaper expired on 31 July 2016 and was not renewed. Its chief editor is Arseny Oganesyan, who has worked for state news agency RIA Novosti and from October 2013 was deputy governor of Kaluga Region. According to the Interfax news agency, the paper's average issue readership is 309,000.

Kommersant (www.kommersant.ru) is a business-oriented daily with a print-run of around 90,000, according to the Circulation Audit Bureau (CAB). It is part of the Kommersant Publishing House that is owned by Russia's richest man, the Uzbek-born tycoon and Putin supporter Alisher Usmanov. Once staunchly liberal, Kommersant has become more aligned with government standpoints in recent years, though some of its journalists, such as Ilya Barabanov, still have a reputation for independent reporting, even when it comes to Ukraine. On the other hand, a number of journalists have lost their jobs in the Kommersant group, apparently for offending the authorities. In one such recent incident, the editor of the Kommersant website was sacked after he published the transcript of an interview opposition activist Alexei Navalny gave to Kommersant FM.

Komsomolskaya Pravda (http://kp.ru) is a pro-Kremlin tabloid that often features celebrity stories and sensationalist reports on its front pages, but also contains a fair amount of political reporting and comment. Founded in 1925, Komsomolskaya Pravda's ethos is socially conservative and it is unswervingly loyal to the ruling establishment. Over recent years, it has been criticised on a number of occasions for apparent anti-Semitism. It has also been an outlet for several dubious stories connected with the Kremlin's disinformation campaign about the downing of Malaysian flight MH17 over east Ukraine.

Earlier press reports said that the paper was controlled by ESN, an energy company run by Grigoriy Berezkin, a businessman with close ties to the ruling elite. But more recent articles in leading business newspapers suggest that all along the main shareholder was the head of the Baltic Media Group, Oleg Rudnov, who died in January 2015. The key figure at the paper, though, is director-general and editor-inchief Vladimir Sungorkin, who has held both these posts since 2002.

The creation of Rossiya Segodnya, with its focus on international audiences and with controversial TV anchor Dmitry Kiselyov as its director-general, was yet another sign that propaganda rather than news reporting had become the main function of Russian state media.

Under its previous editor-in-chief, Svetlana Mironyuk, the old RIA Novosti had garnered a reputation for relatively impartial reporting, especially during the wave of large anti-Putin protests that swept Moscow in 2011 and 2012. This was clearly not to the Kremlin's liking.

The RIA Novosti brand has been retained by Rossiya Segodnya for its domestic news service, but it is now associated with news coverage that to a large extent reflects the anti-Western and chauvinistic standpoint of its boss, Kiselyov.

Russia also has a handful of private news agencies, including the Ekho Moskvy news agency and Rosbalt. Rosbalt was briefly threatened with closure at the end of 2013 after posting videos by anti-Kremlin punk band Pussy Riot. In November 2015, Rambler and Co launched Rambler News Service, a news agency specialising in business and economic affairs.

10.1 List of news agencies

Ekho Moskvy news agency (www.echo.msk.ru/agency) is operated by editorially-independent radio station Ekho Moskvy. Founded in 1994, its website says it has received support from US-based billionaire George Soros' Open Society Foundations, which at the end of 2015 was declared an "undesirable organisation" in Russia.

Interfax (www.interfax.ru) is Russia's leading privately-owned news agency. Founded in 1989, it says it operates in nearly 20 countries, including all the former Soviet states. As well as its main political news agency, it has a military news agency called AVN and numerous specialist business services. The latter include partnership projects with international business information organisations, Moody's, and Dun and Bradstreet. Interfax's foreign branches sometimes pursue an editorial line that is noticeably different from the main Russian news service. This is particularly evident, for example, in Interfax-Ukraine's coverage of the investigation into the downing of Malaysian airliner MH17 over east Ukraine. The agency's founder, director-general and co-owner is Mikhail Komissar.

MIA Rossiya Segodnya (http://ria.ru) is an international state-owned news agency founded in December 2013 by a merger of RIA Novosti and the international radio station Voice of Russia (for more information, see Section 5 on Russia's international media presence).

PRIME (www.1prime.ru) is a business news agency that is majority owned by a company under the control of state news agency Rossiya

Segodnya. Its former owner, state-owned news agency TASS, retains a 35-per-cent stake in the business.

Rambler News Service (https://rns.online/) Launched in November 2015, the RNS specialises in business and economic news. It is owned by Rambler and Co, which was formed by the merger of the media assets of metals magnate Vladimir Potanin and Alexander Mamut, who is the managing partner and director-general.

Regnum (www.regnum.ru) is a private news agency that specialises in reporting on Russia's regions and the country's post-Soviet neighbours, some of whom have accused it of being an instrument of the Russian state. Regnum was co-founded by former Kremlin official Modest Kolerov, who is its editor-in-chief. Kolerov also operates another similar news agency called Rex (http://www.iarex.ru).

Rosbalt (www.rosbalt.ru) was founded in St Petersburg, but now has offices across the European part of Russia, and in Latvia and Ukraine. It is run by Natalya Cherkesova (Chaplina), wife of Viktor Cherkesov, a former high-ranking member of the security services and Putin associate, who is now an MP for the Communist Party. Rosbalt's reporting is generally impartial and balanced, and its commentaries often come from Kremlin critics. At the end of 2013, it was briefly threatened with closure.

TASS (www.tass.ru) is a state-owned news agency that produces reports in six languages from a network of correspondent across Russia and in 63 other countries. Its coverage reflects the policies and priorities of the Russian state. The agency's director-general, Sergei Mikhailov, has been in post since 2012.

11. INTERNET

11.1 Overview

The number of Russian internet users continues to grow at a steady rate. According to a large-scale survey by the Public Opinion Foundation (FOM), a pollster, conducted in the winter of 2015-16, 80.5m Russians aged 18 or over are online, comprising 69 per cent of the adult population. This is an increase of 6.7m or 9 per cent from the previous year. The vast majority of users - around 83 per cent - use the internet every day.

Internet use among some sections of the population is now nearly at saturation point, with over 95 per cent of urban12-34-year-olds now regularly going online, according to TNS.

Mobile internet use appears to be going up little more quickly than internet penetration as a whole. TNS reported in May 2016 that 58 per cent of urban Russians are now accessing the web from mobile devices compared with 52 per cent a year ago. This represents an annual rise

online news are now all to some extent or other under the control of the Kremlin or its allies.

The top 10 online news sources, as determined by TNS in October 2015, were:

- 1. Yandex.News (News aggregator) 22.87m
- 2. Mail.ru News (News aggregator) 15.25m
- 3. Rbc.ru (Mikhail Prokhorov's Onexim group) 11.43m
- Ria.ru (RIA-Novosti, part of state-owned Rossiya Segodnya news agency) 11.41m
- 5. Kp.ru (pro-Kremlin tabloid Komsomolskaya Pravda) 10.13m
- 6. Vesti.ru (news service of state broadcaster VGTRK) 9.8m
- 7. Aif.ru (Moscow government's Argumenty i Fakty) 8.7m
- 8. Rg.ru (state-owned newspaper Rossiyskaya Gazeta) 8.6m
- 9. Lenta.ru (Rambler and Co) 7.7m
- 10. Rambler News (News aggregator) 7.6m

Russia has a large number of online-only news sites, a selection of which is listed below:

Agentura.ru is a site dedicated to scrutinising the activities of the Russian security services. It is run by journalists Andrei Soldatov and Irina Borogan, authors of a recent book on the Russian internet called "Red Web".

Colta.ru is a culture and politics site that espouses liberal values, including gay rights. Staffed by journalists from the now defunct site Openspace.ru, it says its supported by three sources - readers, a supervisory council and partnership organisations, including the foundation of tycoon Mikhail Prokhorov and the human rights organisation Memorial.

Gazeta.ru is a news and commentary website that is part of the Rambler and Co group controlled by Kremlin-friendly tycoon Aleksandr Mamut. In the past, the website was known for its editorial independence. These days, it tends to steer clear of criticising the authorities in its news coverage, though some of its regular columnists are Kremlin critics. In July 2016, editor Svetlana Babaeva was unexpectedly sacked and replaced by Olga Alekseeva, who edited the site's business section. TNS says it has a monthly desktop reach of 7-8m.

- Identification & Summary
 - Identification
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 - Risk Assessment
 - Due Diligence Index
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 - Bankers
 - Trade Payments
 - Public Record Information
- Business & Operations
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 - Balance Sheet
 - Profit & Loss
 - Notes on Financials
 - Appendices

 D&B Report
 Delivery Date: Mar 19, 2018 Subscriber No: (b)(7)(E)
 Ticket Key: 201803195006431581

GAZPROM, PAO

ACTIVE SINGLE LOCATION

Tradestyle(s) GAZPROM PJSC

Address: 16,ul. Nametkina Moscow,117420 ,RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Telephone(s): 7495 7193001 D-U-N-S: 64-490-3627

Official Name: PUBLICHNOE AKTSIONERNOE OBSHCHESTVO "GAZPROM"

Identification & Summary

Identification

- D-U-N-S:
- 64-490-3627
- · Official Name:
- PUBLICHNOE AKTSIONERNOE
 7495 7193001
- OBSHCHESTVO "GAZPROM"
- Trading Style(s):
- GAZPROM PJSC
- · Former Name(s):
- · GAZPROM, OTKRYTOE AKTSIONERNOE OBSHCHESTVO
- · Telefax:
- 7495 7198333 · Telephone(s):
- 7495 7191077
- · E-mail Address: • gazprom@gazprom.ru
- · Web Address:
- www.gazprom.ru

Summary

- · Year Started:
- 1993
- · Year Incorporated: • 2002
- · Legal Form:
- · Public joint stock co
- · Local Legal Form:
- Publichnoe Aktsionernoe Obshchestvo
- · Reg No: • 1027700070518
- · Govt Gaz No:
- 00040778
- · Employs:
- 5,001

- · SIC: • 1311
 - · Activity:
 - Engaged in crude petroleum and natural gas production

Currency

All monetary amounts quoted in this report are shown in Russian Rouble unless otherwise stated.

Street Address

16 ul. Nametkina Moscow 117420 RUSSIAN FEDERATION Risk Evaluation

 Risk Indicator
 1

 D&B Rating
 5A1

 Due Diligence Index 1

Trend UP

Average Credit 1,424,202,847 USD

SUMMARY

 Registered Capital
 118,367,564,000 ROU

 Sales/Turnover
 3,034,591,485,000 ROU

 Pre-Tax Profit
 65,102,792,000 ROU

 Tangible Net Worth
 10,197,575,860,000 ROU

 Total Assets
 13,793,804,342,000 ROU

 Principal(s)
 12

 Payments
 PROMPT

 Pavdex
 93

Avg Payments 23 days sooner than terms

Risk Assessment

Risk Indicator

* 1

Low Risk (1)

High Risk (4)

Risk Level of the Company is: MINIMAL

D&B Rating

Financial Strength

5A

Based on tangible net worth

Risk Indicator

1

Strong (Minimal Risk)

Former Rating

Financial Strength

N/A

Risk Indicator

N/A

The Dun & Bradstreet Rating of 5A1 indicates:

- · Financial Strength of USD 60 million and above (based on net worth).
- · A Risk Indicator which is Strong (Minimal Risk).

Due Diligence Index

Due Diligence Index for this Business.

• 1

Low Risk (0)

High Risk (99)

- . The Due Diligence Index for this business is 1.
- . It is indicating Low risk.

Due Diligence Index

Risk Class

Low Risk Scores (0-29)

Understanding the Due Diligence Index:

The Index provides a 0-99 point value distributed into five bands

Points Risk Assessment

Recommendation

0-29 Low risk

Proceed with transaction

30-49 Moderate risk Proceed with transaction

50-69 Medium risk Proceed with transaction but monitor closely

70-89 High risk

Take suitable assurances

90-99 The highest risk Caution

- 1. The Due Diligence Index is calculated using statistical methodology to assign each business entity a score representing the likelihood that a company was created (or exists) to carry out just one transaction and has no real assets or operations.
- 2. The score takes on values 0 99 which represent the probability of being a shell company.
- 3. The higher the Index value, the more likely the entity is a shell company.
- 4. The Due Diligence Index is calculated using public information available on a legal entity.

TREND ANALYSIS

Key Trends

Risk Indicator



Current Ratio



Worsening Statutory Debt



Static No. of Employees





Worsening

Using historical archive data we are able to plot the movement of key data elements.

Methodology:

Where data availability allows we are monitoring six elements for key trends: solvency ratio, current ratio, statutory debts, employee figure, scores or rating. Financial trends are based year over year using latest available financial statements or figures, whereas statutory debt comparisons are made quarterly as fresh information is released. Comparative employee data, typically collected directly from the subject company is therefore triggered by latest to last date of update. As our scores are recalculated on the basis of all fresh information these comparisons will also reflect latest to last date of update position.

Principals

Name:

Viktor Alekseevich Zubkov

Chairman of the board Position:

Born

Also associated with Gazprom gazomotornoe toplivo OOO -deputy chairman of the board; Charity Fund to help Associations:

vulnerable people and organizations involved in social projects Creating the Future

Name: Aleksei Borisovich Miller Deputy Chairman of the board Position:

Chairman

Born:

Also associated with GPB OAO, SOGAZ OAO, Gazprom neft OAO, Gazprom-Media Holding OAO,

Associations: Rosippodromy OAO - chairman of the board; South Stream Transport B.V. - member of the board; Shtokman

Development AG - president of the board

Aleksei Valentinovich Ulyukaev Name:

Position: Member of the board

Associations: Also a director of Bank VTB PAO; Upravlyayushchaya kompamiya RFPI OOO;

Mikhail Leonidovich Sereda Name:

Position: Member of the board

Born:

Also associated with Gazpromtrubinvest OAO, Tomskgazprom OAO, Tsentrenergogaz DOAO, Vostokgazprom

Associations: OAO - chairman of the board; Gazprom UK Ltd, Gazprom Kosmicheskie Sistemy OAO, Temryukmortrans OOO, Gazpromtrubinvest OAO, Gazprom neft OAO, WINGAS GmbH, WIEH GmbH & Co. KG - member of the board

Name: Vladimir Aleksandrovich Mau

Member of the board Position:

Born

Associations: Also a director of TKB Bank PAO; Severstal PAO; Heritage Foundation of Yegor Gaidar

Name: Timur Askarovich Kulibaev

Position: Member of the board

Born

Also associated with International Boxing Association (AIBA) - vice-president; The National Chamber of Associations: Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Atameken - Chairman of the Presidium, National Olympic Committee

of the Republic of Kazakhstan - president; Olympic Council of Asia - vice-president

Andrei Igorevich Akimov

Member of the board Position:

Born:

Also associated with NOVATEK OAO, ROSNEFTEGAZ AO, NK Rosneft OAO - member of the board; Gazprom Associations

gazomotomoe toplivo OOO - deputy chairman of the board

Name: Vitali Anatolievich Markelov

Position: Member of the board

1963

Also associated with Wintershall AG - member of the supervisory board; Gazprom gazomotomoe toplivo OOO -**Associations**

member of the board Gazprom Kyrgystan OOO; Gazprom EP International B.V.; Nord Stream 2 AG

Name: Viktor Georgievich Martynov

Position: Member of the board

Born:

Also associated with NK Russneft AO; Russian State University of Oil and Gas (National Research University) Associations:

named after I.M. Gubkin (rector)

Name: Aleksandr Valentinovich Novak

Position: Member of the board

1971 Born:

Also a director of Minenergo Rossii (Russian Energy Minister), Rosatom, Siberian Federal University (member of Associations:

the Board of Trustees); Transneft PAO

Name: Elena Aleksandrovna Vasilieva

Chief Accountant Position:

Deputy Chairman of management committee

Born:

Also associated with Lazumaya OOO, GPB OAO, Vostokgazprom OAO, Tomskgazprom OAO - member of the Associations:

board

Name: **Dmitri Nikolaevich Patrushev**

图

UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON, D.C.

Case ID: UKRAINE-EO13661-13372

(U) Translation Verification for the Evidentiary on ANDREY KOSTIN, ALEXEY MILLER, ALEXANDER TORSHIN and VLADISLAV REZNIK

(U//FOUO) On March 8-9, 2018, March 12-13, 2018, and March 22-23, 2018, a fluent Russian language speaker working with the U.S. Department of the Treasury translated, and confirmed the accuracy of the information in the evidentiary referenced in Exhibits 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 38 and 39.

(U//FOUO) The translator, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) is a native Russian speaker with an academic background in the field of international affairs.

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Main

About VTB Group

VTB Group is a global provider of financial services, comprised of over 20 credit institutions and financial companies operating across all key areas of the financial markets.

VTB Group is a holding company with one strategically aligned development model, including a common brand, centralised financial and risk management, and integrated compliance systems.

VTB Group's global network is unique to the Russian banking industry. It enables the group to facilitate international partnerships and promote Russian companies aiming to engage with global markets.

VTB Group operates a large international network across CIS countries; Armenia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan. VTB also has banks in Austria, Germany and France which are part of a European sub-holding with VTB Bank (Austria) acting as the parent bank for Germany and France. The Group also has subsidiary and affiliated banks in the United Kingdom, Cyprus, Serbia, Georgia and Angola and branches in China and India and VTB Capital has branches in Singapore and Dubai.

The Bank's majority shareholder is the Russian Federation, which owns 60.93% of the bank's ordinary shares through the Federal Agency for State Property Management. The Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation holds 100% of Type 1 preference shares, and the Deposit Insurance Agency holds 100% of Type 2 preference shares of the Bank. The aggregate stake of the Russian Federation (through the Federal Agency for State Property Management and the Ministry of Finance), and the Deposit Insurance Agency is 92.23% of the Bank's share capital.

VTB Group



The Russian Government

Send Message







About the Government > Ministries and Agencies

Federal Agency for State Property Management



Dmitry Pristanskov Head of the Federal Agency for State Property Management

Section

Federal Services and Agencies

Site

http://www.rosim.ru/

16.

Description

The Federal Agency for State Property Management (Rosimushchestvo) is a federal executive body managing federal property (excluding cases when, in accordance with the Russian legislation, these powers are exercised by other federal executive bodies), organising the sale of federal property to be privatised and property seized in accordance with a court decision or the directives of other agencies that have the right to foreclose on a property, selling confiscated, movable and derelict, abandoned and any other property turned over into state ownership in accordance with the Russian legislation, as well as providing government services and law-enforcement functions in the field of property and land relations.



Subscription Archive

About

Press Service



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Investors /

Shares

Gazprom is the largest joint-stock company in Russia. The total number of bank accounts holding 23,673,512,900 shares of Gazprom exceeds 470 thousand. Russian Government controls over 50 per cent of the Company's shares.

Gazprom's equity capital

Shareholders	Stake, %
	as of December 31, 2016
The Russian Federation represented by the Federal Agency for State Property Management	38.37
Rosneftegaz *	10.97
Rosgazifikatsiya *	0.89
ADR holders	26.86
Other legal entities and individuals	22.91

^{*} Companies controlled by the Russian Government

Gazprom's shares are one of the most liquid instruments of the Russian stock market. In 2014 the average daily trading volume of the Company's shares totaled some 17 per cent of the average daily trading volume of shares, depositary receipts and equity interest at the Moscow Exchange. The Company's stock has the largest share in the RTS and MICEX indexes.

1 of 7

03/23/2018 03:25 PM

This conference-related information was published by *Kommersant* (The Businessman), a nationally distributed Russian daily newspaper focused on politics and business, and accessed on March 23, 2018. The page's title is "Conference: Cryptocurrency and other blockchain technology products as subjects of intellectual property":

[Page 1]

Kommersant.ru Conference | December 6, 2017

[Conference banner]

Cryptocurrency and other blockchain technology products as subjects of intellectual property

December 6, 2017, Moscow, 2nd Donskoy proezd, 9/3, "Blockchain Commune"

[Hyperlink: SPEAKERS]

[Hyperlink: POST-RELEASE]

In the new market realities of big data and development of a digital realm the issue of identifying, introducing, and effectively using groundbreaking technologies has become more acute. [...] These and other matters will be discussed at the conference, which is organized by the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) and the Collegium of Advocates Tarlo & Partners.

[...]

This translation was completed on March 23, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.

Коммерсант.ru



Криптовалюта и другие продукты технологии блокчейн как объекты интеллектуальной собственности

6 декабря 2017 года, Москва, 2-й Донской проезд, 9/3, "Блокчейн Коммуна"

СПИКЕРЫ »

В новой реальности рынка больших данных и формирования цифровой среды все острее стоит проблема скорости распознавания, внедрения и эффективного использования прорывных технологий. Станет ли блокчейн, который считается одним из таких ноу-хау, способным изменить целые отрасли экономики, эффективным инструментом формирования цифровой среды? Какие существуют пути использования блокчейна в государственном управлении, работе регуляторов и в рамках надзора по использованию технологий распределенного реестра на финансовых рынках? Можно ли рассматривать продукты на основе блокчейна в качестве объектов интеллектуальной собственности? Эти и другие вопросы будут обсуждать на конференции, которую организуют Федеральная служба по интеллектуальной собственности (Роспатент) и коллегия адвокатов «Тарло и партнеры».

пострелиз

Первый российский блокчейн-патент появится в ближайшие месяцы

Конференция «Криптовалюта и другие продукты технологии блокчейн как объекты интеллектуальной собственности» состоялась 6 декабря 2017 года в блокчейн-коммуне Внешэкономбанка и НИТУ МИСИ при информационной поддержке ИД «Коммерсантъ». По итогам конференции была подготовлена резолюция со списком первоочередных мер по развитию нормативного регулирования технологии «блокчейн» в России, включая сферу интеллектуальной собственности.

Открыл конференцию руководитель Федеральной службы по интеллектуальной собственности Григорий Ивлиев. Глава Роспатента подчеркнул, что, несмотря на развитие новых технологий, институт интеллектуальной собственности сохраняет свое фундаментальное значение для развития научнотехнической сферы. С ним согласился член наблюдательного совета Ethereum, предприниматель и инвестор Владислав Мартынов, который отметил, что предприниматели зачастую слишком поздно начинают задумываться об оформлении своих прав и регистрации интеллектуальной собственности. Особенно это

касается высокотехнологичного сектора, стартапов. Он также выразил надежду, что подобные конференции помогут Роспатенту донести до бизнес-сообщества важность интеллектуальной собственности как ключевого нематериального актива.

Григорий Ивлиев отметил, что ведомство уже получает заявки на изобретения, товарные знаки и регистрацию программ для ЭВМ, основанные на технологии блокчейн или моде на нее. На сегодня в Роспатент поступила 21 заявка на регистрацию изобретений, использующих технологию блокчейн. По одной заявке — №2017102462 — подготовлено решение о выдаче патента на изобретение. Так что первый российский блокчейн-патент появится уже в ближайшие месяцы. Остальные заявки находятся на стадии рассмотрения. В них технология блокчейн применяется в финансовой сфере, страховой сфере, сфере логистики и выявления контрафакта, шифрования данных, инвестиционных прогнозов и облачного хранения данных. Кроме того, в 2017 году в Роспатент поступило семь заявок на регистрацию программы дл ЭВМ и баз данных (БД).

В пленарном заседании конференции также приняли участие уполномоченный при Президенте РФ по защите прав предпринимателей, кандидат в президенты России Борис Титов, президент Российской ассоциации криптовалют и блокчейна (РАКИБ) Юрий Припачкин, член экспертного совета Агентства стратегических инициатив и генерального совета «Деловая Россия», глава компании Radius Group, интернет омбудсмен Дмитрий Мариничев, советник председателя Внешэкономбанка, эксперт рабочей группы по вопросам применения технологии блокчейн в сфере государственного управления под руководством первоговице-премьера Игоря Шувалова Владимир Демин и советник председателя правления Ассоциации участников рынков платежных услуг НП «Национальный платежный совет» Андрей Лисицын. Модерирова. заседание президент Столыпинского клуба, доктор юридических наук, профессор Евгений Тарло (коллегия адвокатов «Тарло и партнеры»).

На секциях FinTech и LegalTech, а также заседании «Способы правовой охраны продуктов технологии блокчейн» представители федеральных органов исполнительной власти, институтов развития, собственники блокчейн-проектов, участники законотворческих процессов и лидеры юридического сообщества, экспертыпрактики обсудили перспективы внедрения, правовые инструменты и использование технологии блокчейна России — возможности применения блокчейна в государственном управлении и бизнес-процессах, необходимость нормативно-правового регулирования и использование технологии в сфере ИС.

По итогам обсуждений была принята резолюция со списком первоочередных мер по проработке и созданию нормативной базы вокруг технологии блокчейн в России. В частности, предложено создать при первом заместителе председателя Правительства консультативный совет (рабочую группу) из представителей заинтересованных организаций и ведомств с целью изучения, анализа и адаптации прорывных технологий, передовых решений и лучших практик в сфере цифровой трансформации экономики и подготовки предложений законодательных и управленческих решений, сформировать долгосрочную стратегию стимулирования отечественных разработок в области цифровых технологий в целом и технологии блокчейн частности, а также их правовую защиту как важнейшую часть долгосрочной стратегии государства в области интеллектуальной собственности, отвечающую целям и задачам программы «Цифровая экономика Российской Федерации». Участники также предлагают Минобрнауки России рассмотреть вопрос разработки внедрения стандарта профессиональной квалификации «Специалист в сфере блокчейн-технологий».

Резолюция конференции с перечнем первоочередных мер профессионального сообщества и Роспатента по правовым механизмам технологии блокчейн и регулированию связанных с ней вопросов интеллектуальной собственности в России будет направлена в администрацию президента, аппарат правительства, профильны комитеты и аппараты Совета федерации и Государственной думы.

По вопросам регистрации участия

LF Академия ||fconferences@lfacademy.ru (https://kommersant.rumailto:lfconferences@lfacademy.ru)

+7 (812) 449-36-21

По вопросам аккредитации СМИ

This page was published on the official site of the State Duma, the lower house of parliament of the Russian Federation, and accessed on March 22, 2018. Its title is "Contact Information of the State Duma":

[Link] http://www.duma.gov.ru/about/contacts/

Contact Information of the State Duma

Mailing address of State Duma: Okhotny Ryad Street, Building 1, Moscow 103265

Send a message to the State Duma: priemnaya.parliament.gov.ru

Phone directories of the State Duma: (495) 692-62-66

<u>Directorate for handling citizen inquiries:</u>
Mokhovaya Street, Building 7. Moscow 103265 (V. I. Lenin Library metro station)

This translation was completed on March 22, 2018 by a Russian speaker working at the Department of the Treasury.

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ГОСУДАРСТВЕННАЯ ДУМА официальный сайт

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(495) 692-62-66

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RUSSIA

Ruling Party Dominates Russian Elections Amid Low Turnout, Opposition Claims Strong Moscow Showing

Last Updated: September 12, 2017 03:47 GMT Tom Balmforth

MOSCOW -- The ruling United Russia party has dominated a slew of regional and local elections marked by low turnout and claims of voter suppression, but liberal opposition candidates appeared to gain a toehold in Moscow with a strong showing in races for district councils in the capital.

The September 10 elections, the last major vote before a presidential ballot in March 2018, cemented President Vladimir Putin's grip on power in Russia's far-flung regions and tested a new strategy -- at least in Moscow -- for opponents sidelined after years of increasing Kremlin control over the political system.

Nearly complete official counts indicated that United Russia candidates and Kremlin allies, many of them incumbents, won all 15 regional gubernatorial races -- from the Baltic Sea exclave of Kaliningrad to Buryatia on Lake Baikal -- as well as a vote for the head of the naval port city of Sevastopol on Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula that Russia occupied and seized from Ukraine in 2014. United Russia also appeared set to maintain control over regional and local legislatures across the country.

But opposition leaders, including prominent Kremlin critics, claimed victory in several Moscow districts, including Putin's own voting precinct southwest of the Kremlin. The

https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-local-elections-marked-by-low-turnout-fraud-claims/287284... 3/12/2018

newspaper Novaya Gazeta reported that opposition candidates were on track to win a

Partial returns indicated that nearly 180 candidates supported by liberal former Russian parliament deputy Dmitry Gudkov and the Yabloko party won seats in Moscow district councils, and opposition activist Ilya Yashin said he and his allies **won seven seats** in one of the councils while United Russia won three.

Moscow election commission chairman Valentin Gorbunov said preliminary results with nearly 100 percent of the ballots counted indicated that United Russia won about 77 percent of the 1,502 district council seats being contested in the capital, while Yabloko could win nearly 12 percent and independent candidates about 7 percent.

"Muscovites' political preferences are changing," he said.

Gorbunov said Yabloko was on track to gain 176 or 177 local council mandates, up from the current 25.

Pushed out of national politics since Putin came to power in 2000 and tightened control over elections, opposition activists and groups such as Gudkov, Yashin, and the Yabloko party are focusing on municipal issues and mounting a grassroots campaign to their way claw back. In Moscow, they have their eye on a mayoral election due in September 2018.

Yabloko party official Nikolai Rybakov hailed the results as a breakthrough for the party, adding that Yabloko would attempt to field a candidate for the Moscow mayoral election set for September 2018.

Gudkov told a Moscow press conference that he is in talks with Yabloko to represent the party in that election.

In addition, he said the results send "a very important signal" for the presidential campaign of Yabloko founder Grigory Yavlinsky.

Putin's spokesman said the Kremlin welcomed the fact that candidates who were not from United Russia won seats casting it as avidence of political pluralism and a fair compatitive vote.

"This is excellent. They will take part in the life of the city and demonstrate their effectiveness," Dmitry Peskov told reporters. "This is pluralism, this is political competition."

Peskov also said "the legitimacy of the elections was ensured in the country on a fairly high level."

Kremlin opponents saw it differently, saying they made progress in the face of alleged fraud and a state campaign to suppress voter turnout in Moscow, where liberal opposition to the Kremlin is stronger than in most other parts of the country.

Gudkov **tweeted** about what he called an opposition "victory" and Putin foe Mikhail Khodorkovsky congratulated the former lower-parliament-house member and his allies, **saying** on Twitter that "in the face of United Russia's manipulations, Muscovites have supported a new power."

But the projected opposition wins in Moscow were exceptions in elections in which the newspaper Vedomosti said that "representatives of the party of power won almost everywhere."

"We can speak of the supremacy of and support for United Russia candidates," Peskov said, adding that the results also showed a "quite impressive" level of trust among voters in "officials promoted by the president."

United Russia won a supermajority in the State Duma in elections held last year.

Officials said the incumbent head of the Buryatia region, Aleksei Tsydenov, was on track to win more that 87 percent of the vote. Thousands of kilometers to the west, in Kaliningrad,

regional election officials said acting governor and United Russia candidate Anton

Kremlin critics say that particularly in the provinces, Putin's government uses a range of tools including control over broadcast media, laws discouraging street protests, and influence over groups such as state employees, soldiers, schoolteachers, and students to improve the chances of United Russia candidates and keep opposition votes to a minimum.

The election came six months before a March 2018 vote in which Putin, who has been president or prime minister for 18 years, is widely expected to seek -- and, given his popularity and control over the levers of power -- easily win a new six-year term.

Putin, 64, would be barred from running again in 2024 because of a constitutional limit of two consecutive presidential terms.

Voter turnout in the September 10 elections was a "record low," the Russian newspaper Vedomosti reported.

Citing official figures, it said turnout exceeded 40 percent in only three regions -- Mordovia, Saratov, and Belgorod -- and was 12.7 percent in the Pacific coast city of Vladivostok.

Gorbunov, the Moscow election commission chief, said on September 11 that turnout was about 14.8 percent "so far," without clarifying whether that was a final figure.

Opposition candidates in the capital had warned that authorities were attempting to discourage voter turnout, and Gudkov and others peppered social media with **allegations** of fraud in the vote count.

By midday on September 11, the independent Russian election-monitoring group Golos (Voice/Vote) said it had received about **1,600 reports** of **alleged violations** connected to the campaign, voting on Election Day, and the ballot counts.

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Sergei Mitrokhin, a representative of the liberal Yabloko party, accused officials of using "every means of giving people a sense of electoral powerlessness to make sure that the people they need stay in power," the AFP news agency reported.

In a marked shift from previous practice, there were few billboards or posters urging Muscovites to vote, and opposition politicians said there was **little information available** from the authorities on where and how to cast ballots.

Prominent opposition leader Aleksei Navalny also alleged fraud on the part of the authorities.

Moscow city officials denied charges they were attempting to discourage people from showing up for the election.

WATCH: Vladimir Putin Votes in Russian Local, Regional Elections

Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, chairman of United Russia, said the elections were held at the highest level "everywhere" and that the results were "very favorable" for his party, according to state-run media.

Preliminary results indicated a strong performance for parties linked to United Russia, which is associated with Putin.

The opposition had been hoping for a strong showing, especially in Moscow, and to gain some positions in the local elections throughout the country.

Direct governors' races were held in 16 of Russia's 83 regions, and complaints surfaced ahead of the elections from would-be candidates saying they had been unfairly excluded from the ballot.

In nine of the 16 regions with gubernatorial voting on September 10, United Russia's incumbent governors ran for reelection. A second round of voting is scheduled for September 24 in places where no candidate wins a majority.

A requirement is being blamed by some for unduly narrowing the field of candidates for governor. To get on the ballot, would be candidates must get signatures of support from as high as 10 percent of local lawmakers, the so-called "municipal filter."

In most cases, such local legislatures are either members or allies of United Russia.

At least four potentially formidable candidates had their bids quashed after they failed to secure the required signatures.

Yevgeny Roizman, a Yekaterinburg mayor with a reputation for being a political maverick, failed to get on the gubernatorial ballot in his native Sverdlovsk region. In **an interview** with RFE/RL's Russian Service in August, Roizman alleged that local authorities made sure "they cleared the entire field."

"There's not a single strong challenger," Roizman said of the process. "Not a single strong candidate was even allowed to get close." Roizman predicted that he would have won "plain and simple" if he had been in the race.

Ella Pamfilova, the head of Russia's Central Election Commission, rejected suggestions that Roizman had been unfairly targeted by the Kremlin.

"It's difficult for me to believe that the ruthless Mr. Roizman — a senior official, a statesman, the head of a major city who has certain administrative resources — is a sort of weak little victim hounded by the regime," Pamfilova told the Russian business daily RBK in August.

Ukraine sharply criticized Russia for holding elections in Crimea, which Moscow seized in March 2014 after sending in troops and staging a referendum deemed illegitimate by at least 100 countries.

"Ukraine does not recognize any 'electoral processes' in occupied Crimea, Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mariana Betsa **wrote** on Twitter. "A gross violation by Russia of international law and the laws of Ukraine."

https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-local-elections-marked-by-low-turnout-fraud-claims/287284... 3/12/2018

"Not worthy of substance and content," she said in a separate tweet.

The European Union also said it does not recognize the elections as legitimate because Russia illegally took possession of Crimea.

"Anybody elected in the Crimean peninsula claiming to 'represent' Crimea and Sevastopol will not be recognized as representatives of those territories, which are Ukrainian," an EU spokeperson said in a statement.

"The European Union remains unwavering in its support for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine."

But analysts say the choices were limited, which they said would likely lead to the lower voter turnout.

"There won't be any surprises in the regions because everything is under control," Dmitry Oreshkin, director of the Mercator think tank in Moscow, told RFE/RL.

Oreshkin predicted that United Russia or "people approved by United Russia," would emerge victorious in regional races.

Although he has not officially announced his candidacy, Putin is expected to dominate the presidential election slated for March 2018. It would be his fourth term in the presidency, a tenure dating back to late 1999 and interrupted only by a four-year stint as prime minister to avoid a presidential term limit in Russia's constitution.

With reporting by AP, Reuters, AFP, Interfax, and TASS

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Duma

Duma, Russian in full Gosudarstvennaya Duma ("State Assembly"), elected legislative body that, along with the State Council, constituted the imperial Russian legislature from 1906 until its dissolution at the time of the March 1917 Revolution. The Duma constituted the lower house of the Russian parliament, and the State Council was the upper house. As a traditional institution, the Duma (meaning "deliberation") had precedents in certain deliberative and advisory councils of pre-Soviet Russia, notably in the boyar dumas (existing from the 10th to the 17th century) and the city dumas (1785–1917). The Gosudarstvennaya Duma, or state duma, however, constituted the first genuine attempt toward parliamentary government in Russia.

Initiated as a result of the 1905 revolution, the Duma was established by Tsar Nicholas II in his October Manifesto (Oct. 30, 1905), which promised that it would be a representative assembly and that its approval would be necessary for the enactment of legislation. But the Fundamental Laws, issued in April 1906, before the First Duma met (May 1906), deprived it of control over state ministers and portions of the state budget and limited its ability to initiate legislation effectively.

Four Dumas met (May 10–July 21, 1906; March 5–June 16, 1907; Nov. 14, 1907–June 22, 1912; and Nov. 28, 1912–March 11, 1917). They rarely enjoyed the confidence or the cooperation of the ministers or the emperor, who retained the right to rule by decree when the Duma was not in session. The first two Dumas were elected indirectly (except in five large cities) by a system that gave undue representation to the peasantry, which the government expected to be conservative. The Dumas were, nevertheless, dominated by liberal and socialist opposition groups that demanded extensive reforms. Both Dumas were quickly dissolved by the tsar.

In 1907, by a virtual coup d'état, Prime Minister Pyotr Arkadyevich Stolypin restricted the franchise to reduce the representation of radical and national minority groups. The Third Duma, elected on that basis, was conservative. It generally supported the government's agrarian reforms and military reorganization; and, although it criticized bureaucratic abuses and government advisers, it survived its full five-year term.

The Fourth Duma was also conservative. But as World War I progressed, it became increasingly dissatisfied with the government's incompetence and negligence, especially in supplying the army. By the spring of 1915 the Duma had become a focal point of opposition to the imperial regime. At the outset of the March Revolution of 1917, it established the Provisional Committee of the Duma, which formed the first Provisional Government and accepted the abdication of Nicholas II.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the Russian Federation in 1993 replaced its old Soviet-era constitution with a new document that revived the name "State Duma" for the lower house of the newly created Federal Assembly, or Russian national parliament. (The Federation Council comprised the upper house.) The revived Duma consisted of 450 members elected by universal suffrage to a four-year term. Half of the Duma's members were elected by proportional representation, and the other half by single-member constituencies. The revived Duma was the chief legislative chamber and passed legislation by majority vote. The Federal Assembly could override a presidential veto of such legislation by a two-thirds majority vote. The Duma also had the right to approve the prime minister and other high government officials nominated by the president.

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